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THE WEEK.

MONDAY, 29TH AUGUST.

WE HAVE received the following from our Dacca correspondent anent the Dacca Newabs' case:

After the Tikari Raj case had been dismissed we had been looking forward with earnestness to the result of the Dacca big case. But fortunately for all parties interested it has ended very happily in the fruition of the very good and generous wishes of His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal. A great house—perhaps the greatest in the East, has just escaped ruin and the flame of litigation which had enveloped it.

Yesterday under the presidency of the District Judge, the *elite* of the town assembled in the great hall of the Newabs' palace, to bear testimony to the deed of agreement by which the dissension in the family was to have ended. Along with the agreement were signed Vakalutnamas and petitions by which the suit was to have been withdrawn without liberty to the plaintiffs to revive it, if unfortunately so advised. It was signed by all the disaffected members of the family, the plaintiffs, the Newabs and Babu RamKissen Das, who had been maintaining the suit against the Newabs on behalf of the discontented members of the house. The attesting witnesses to the deed of compromise were the District Judge himself, the Principal of the Dacca College, the Superintendent of the Dacca Bank, two of the Dacca Moonsiffs, the Personal Assistant to the Commissioner, the Government Pleader and a few other members of the local bar.

The terms of the compromise appear to be advantageous to both the litigating parties. Ostensibly the suit was for setting aside a waqfnama, it was virtually one for increase of allowance, and the object of the plaintiffs has been more than amply gained. The plaintiffs used to get as *Mashakara* or allowance from Newab Ashan Ulla Rs. 44,000 per annum. In future they will have a lac and Rs. 33,000 a year, which triple the sum they had been receiving before the suit. Babu Ram Kissen Das who advanced funds for maintaining the litigation and who was to have had one-fourth of the amount of the suit in case the plaintiffs succeeded eventually will retire on receipt of Rs. 150,000. But considering the heavy storm that was brewing over his house people say peace has been purchased at a very small sacrifice.

The ice in this matter was broken by the good Sub-Judge of Dacca before whom the great case was pending. But what he began has been completed by the District Judge. Mr. Rampini has accomplished what Babu Gungachurn Sircar initiated. Mr. Rampini has the reputation of being a very clever, strict and a matter-of-fact man. He did not allow any pleader or mooktear to intervene but took up the drafting of the deed of compromise into his own hands and allowed himself no rest until the matter had been finally accomplished. Yesterday he was in the Newabs' house from 2 to 11 p. m. and had every thing done under his direct supervision and wholesome advise. All honor to him for thus restoring peace in the Newabs' house!

THERE is no fear for our indigo. It is stated that the cultivation of the indigo plant in Europe has met with no greater success than the attempts to produce the dye artificially. The chemical production of indigo has fallen through because of the costly nature of the process and the inadequacy of the out-turn for commercial purposes. The cultivation of indigo has also failed.

THE RUMOUR that the Home authorities were anxious to nominate Sir Henry Norman to the Lieutenant-Governorship of the Punjab, in succession to Sir Robert Egerton, is contradicted. As we stated before Sir Charles Aitchison will succeed Sir Robert Egerton.

MR. GRANT DUFF made a capital speech at the farewell dinner given to him by his political friends. He thus interpreted the mandate of Her Majesty to him:

For what is the mandate that I have received? Is it not this? Go forth from the ranks of our home public life, from familiar scenes and familiar companionships, to be for five years the most important individual factor in the weal or woe of thirty millions of men, of other creeds, other races, other thoughts, living under other stars, thousands and thousands of miles away. Go forth to write another page in that action, reaction, and interaction of the East and West, which forms the strangest and most poetical volume in human history.

Mr. Grant Duff has faith in his work, and we make no doubt that he will prove successful.

THE TIMES OF INDIA says that a Hindu gentleman now travelling in Europe, writing to his friends in Bombay from Muscow, says that his movements are keenly watched by the authorities. While at St. Petersburg he was very uncomfortable on account of being constantly dogged by detectives in plain clothes. This was also the experience of Babu Nishikant Chatterjee.

THE FOLLOWING appears in the above journal:

The petition brought by Jugmohundas Munguldas to sue in *forma pauperis* in the suit filed against his father, Sir Munguldas Nathoobhoy, K. C. S. I., for a partition of family property, was heard before Sir Charles Sargent on Tuesday. The petitioner had been offered a monthly payment of Rs. 600; Rs. 5,000 as an outfit; Rs. 5,000 for expenses on his marriage; Rs. 25 per month extra for each child born to him; and Rs. 10,000 for jewellery for his wife. The question as to the property being ancestral property was to be left open until after Sir Munguldas's death. The petitioner, however, offered other terms, among them being a monthly payment of Rs. 1,000, and a carriage and pair or Rs. 10,000 instead. On it being shown that he was in possession of upwards of Rs. 200, his lordship said that sum was sufficient to enable him to proceed with his suit and dismissed the petition.

We are sorry to read the above.

TUESDAY, 30TH AUGUST.

THE WRITER of the *World* gossip says:—"I was not a little surprised to observe the other day that Sir Albert Sassoon's mansion-house, at Kensington Gore, was guarded by policemen. On inquiry I find that this precaution had been taken in consequence of Sir Albert having received a letter threatening to blow his house up, in consequence of his having had the effrontery to entertain the Prince of Wales at lunch at Brighton on the occasion of his recent visit, instead of leaving him to the tender mercies of the Brightonians." What next and next?

THE STATESMAN has the following Jeypore news:

"The cash in the Kupurdwara, amounting to Rs. 26,00,000 has been examined. Colonel Bannerman has ordered all the treasure in the Nuharghar Hill fort to be brought down, and there is said to be about eighteen lakhs in one of the vaults there. There is also treasure amounting to from two to three lakhs of rupees in some of the forts in the interior districts, and the Thakur of Bagras, one of the members of the Council, has been sent to bring the money to Jeypore. Colonel Bannerman has been ill advised in this business. In verifying the accounts of the Kupurdwara he has been led to ransack his late Highness's private accounts for the last ten years. There are entries of several private transactions of the deceased, which were never intended for the eyes of any outsider, and of which no one had any knowledge during the Maharaja's lifetime except himself. The Political Agent should not have removed the private accounts of the late prince from the palace to the residency. The action taken by Colonel Bannerman is sufficient to create alarm in the minds of other native princes, and such meddling of the Political Agent should be checked."

We entirely concur.

SIR CHARLES TURNER, Chief Justice of Madras, has ruled that decrees of British courts cannot be executed in Mysore, nor can decrees of the Mysore courts be executed in any part of the Madras Presidency. His Lordship has ruled that the rendition of Mysore has made that State as much foreign territory as France or Austria.

THE LAHORE TRIBUNE reports the following scene in a court:

The characters in the scene are the Syed and a pleader.

Pleader—I urge that the witness's statement has not been taken down correctly.

Magistrate—I have recorded it correctly.

Pleader—This court is always in the habit of moulding the evidence according to its own pre-conceived notions of the case. All Pleaders complain of this, and I urge that the record is not correct.

Magistrate—You are guilty of contempt of Court—I warn you to use guarded language.

Pleader—Very wonderful that I should be guilty of contempt to you—It is only a short time since you used to come to me to take your lessons in law. Subsequent to that, you were made a Pleader, and have by good luck now succeeded in sitting on the chair in the Court where you formerly sat as Reader—Surely you are not entitled to speak to me in this strain.

Magistrate—I shall turn you out of Court.

Pleader—You have no authority to do so.

Magistrate—I shall show you the law which gives me that authority.

Curtain falls—exit Pleader.

The difference it is stated has been since amicably settled.

IT APPEARS that the scheme of educating Chinese pupils in the United States is to be abandoned. An order has been received from the Pekin Government recalling the scholars, about 100 in number. The Chinese Government is beginning to fear the progressiveness of American institutions. This is much to be regretted.

WE ARE GLAD to learn that the Raja of Bijni with his wonted liberality has made a donation of Rs. 1,000 in aid of the Calcutta Hospital Nurses Institution.

WEDNESDAY, 31ST AUGUST.

MRS. ANNIE BESANT, the coadjutor of Mr. Bradlaugh, has passed in the first class at the preliminary examination for the degree of B. Sc., in the University of London, her tutor being Dr. E. B. Aveling. Mrs. Besant has also passed in the advanced classes in seven subjects at South Kensington.

A NEW FORM of idolatry is springing up in England. At a meeting held in the country the other day, quite a rush was made by a number of people to secure the remains of a biscuit which the great actor Mr. Irving had nibbled. The insanity of the old lady, who carefully collected the cherry stones which had fallen from the lips of the Prince of Wales, was eclipsed in this case.

THE RANI OF TANJORE has subscribed Rs. 12,000 towards the erection of a clock tower at Tanjore near the reading-room and library. The Prince of Tanjore has formed a badminton club amongst his kinsmen and relations.

THE DEATH is reported at Rangoon of Mrs. Seraphina Vargos at the rare age of 105 years. She was only bed-ridden for the last two or three months. She retained all her senses up to the very last.

CHOLERA IS so bad at Lahore that the European garrison has been removed from the fort to a camp at Okarah, and the fort is now under the charge of a native guard.

AT TREVANDRUM, in the Travancore State, severe distress prevails, and the repairs of several tanks have been put in hand, in order to furnish work for able bodied poor.

FEARS are entertained that the Bangalore water-works will prove a partial failure. The water in the catchment channels, which are to form feeders to the water-supply of the reservoir, dries up by absorption before it reaches the reservoir. The works have cost something like 4 lacs of rupees. So the water-works are coming to grief everywhere.

A CORRESPONDENT at Cooch Behar notices the appearance of a comet at that place which he observed at 7-30 p. m. on the 24th and 25th instants. The position of the comet in the heavens is north-west half way between the zenith and horizon. Its tail flows upwards, a little inclined towards the north-east. This tail, says our correspondent, is longer than that of the comet last seen on the 3rd or 4th July and also on the 3rd August and is rather faint. Our correspondent enquires whether the comet now noticed is the same as observed in July and in the early part of August?

THURSDAY, 1ST SEPTEMBER.

THE ENGINEER thus condemns the Cooper's Hill students: "Cooper's Hill turns out educated gentlemen, trained mathematicians, good linguists, admirable draughtsmen; but it does not turn out engineers in the full sense of the term." This is the opinion of the leading professional organ of England. And yet India has to pay two lakhs per annum for turning out these accomplished "linguists" but inefficient engineers.

THE INDEFATIGABLE Mr. O'Donnell drew attention of the House of Commons to the London *Statesman's* article on the East India services and the enormous charge on the Indian revenues in the shape of annuities and furlough pay to persons not resident in India. Lord Hartington replied that the only way in which this charge could be hereafter reduced would be the further employment in important positions of natives of India. Instructions had been forwarded to the Government of India by the Home Government impressing the importance of this upon them, and he had every reason to believe that those instructions were being carried out. This has been the stock explanation of every Secretary of State. But when will action be suited to the word? The only proof of the sincerity of Government is that the salaries of native officers are being reduced?

THE ACADEMY has an appreciative notice of Dr. Hunter's *Imperial Gazetteer of India*, which thus concludes:

The Imperial Gazetteer is the crowning work which brings the results of the great Statistical Survey within reach of the

general public. It represents twelve years of incessant labour, demanding many high qualities for its efficient execution, and natural gifts such as are rarely combined in one man. Learning, experience, and scholarly research were no less essential than habits of accurate thought, administrative talent and orderly, methodical arrangement. Above all, imagination was needed—that quality without which work cannot be endued with life and movement, but remains dead, a mere receptacle of lifeless facts. It is to the rare combination of literary skill and the imaginative faculty, with the qualifications of an able and energetic administrator, that we owe the completion of this great and difficult task. It is no ordinary service that Dr. Hunter has done to India and to England; and, for his hard and admirably performed achievement, he has earned the gratitude of his countrymen.

We entirely concur.

WE HAVE RECEIVED the following letter from Ferozepore:

DEAR SIR,—I beg to bring to your notice the hardships endured here from the district authorities by the natives, and to request that you will both give publicity to the facts and call attention to the state of affairs that make these facts possible.

The Government seem inclined to investigate the doings of the Commissariat Department during the late Affghan war; and among other stations, investigations were ordered also at Ferozepore. While, however elsewhere these investigations have been legally and considerately conducted here they have been made with every circumstance of harshness and illegality possible. On the 11th August, Mr. Drummond, the officiating Deputy Commissioner, and Mr. Holbrow, the District Superintendent of Police, with gangs of policemen, proceeded without any warrant or other legal authorization, to the houses and shops of a number of natives, seized their papers and books, sealed up their money safes and boxes, closed their shops, and went their way. With books and ledgers gone, with money sealed up, and shops closed, all business was at an end; I need not say that heavy loss has been the consequence. But there is more. Some of these persons had nothing whatever to do with the Commissariat and its contracts; and one of them is a clerk in the Ordnance Department, a most respectable and deserving Government servant, who on returning to his home, after office closed found it in possession of the police, and his papers and private boxes, &c rummaged by the police, who had neither given him notice nor invited him to be present The police have also seized and opened the letters of these persons, passing through the post,— it is believed without any legal authority, as none has been produced. Their telegrams and correspondence are watched and tampered with; their shops and persons are watched by the police, and spies are kept loafing about, to see and report whom they meet and converse with, where they go, and what they do. They are followed even when answering the calls of nature!

This is a fearful state of affairs; and we here are all of opinion, that whatever may have been the orders of Government which have not been told to the parties, they cannot possibly have contemplated the commission of such acts as have been here performed under cover of these orders. This gross violation of domestic privacy, this violent sequestration of papers, this compulsory closing of shop and stops page of business, this arbitrary shutting up of many safes and boxes, causing both public and domestic inconvenience from not being able to use their own money for even domestic purposes, all constitute a series of acts of oppression, which are both un-English and unconstitutional, both illegal and impolitic. Such things used to occur under tyrannical native rulers, and are still perhaps of rare occurrence in despotic countries, like France and Russia; but till now they were happily unknown under British rule in India; and it is a sad day for that British rule that they have become possible.

Nor is there any local redress. The chief district authorities, to whom, in ordinary course, complaint would be made, are themselves the culprits! The Commissioner is at Lahore and these parties' correspondence is seized the Lieutenant-Governor is away at Simla, and is unapproachable, as their movements are watched; and the Chief Court is closed for the long vacation. The English papers do not care to publish such matters. To you, therefore, as the champion of your *Hindoo fellow-subjects*, we recur for that publicity, without *which justice cannot be procured or redress obtained by them.*

Nor are these solitary acts of oppression. It is barely a month since this same Mr. Drummond, in open court, while Judicial Assistant, assaulted, beat and dishonoured a Serishtadar, a native gentleman of respectable antecedents. No notice was taken of the act by the then Deputy Commissioner: and when he was sent to Peshawar temporarily on duty, this same Mr. Drummond was appointed to officiate as Deputy Commissioner, in spite of misconduct which ought to have led to his removal from the Commission.

In a police torture case resulting in the death or suicide of the tortured man, this same Mr. Holbrow instead of acting as prosecutor, as he was bound to do, in virtue of his office, threw the whole weight of his influence and means into the scale of the accused, flatly refusing to prosecute. The torturer was, however, convicted of the offence, notwithstanding the difficulties caused by this unseemly protection of crime; but no notice was taken of Mr. Holbrow's grave dereliction of duty, and he was still continued at the head of the District Police.

In January last, it a public fete, without any grounds and without any legal warrant, the police headed by the European Inspector, assaulted and beat two native Gazetted officers, *men of respectability and position*, and seized one by the collar, and led him off through the bazar, and locked him up in the common *havilat*. They were rescued by the Native Assistant Commissioner's recurring directly to the Deputy Commissioner in their favour. One of these gentlemen brought an action for assault and battery against the police, and the other forwarded a complaint through his own departmental superior. But the district authorities brought pressure to bear upon them, and they were compelled to give up, however reluctantly, their attempts at procuring justice. Mr. Holbrow under whom this shameful treatment was endured by these gentlemen, and the European Inspector who was the active agent of the assault, are both in their places, and nothing was done to either for this act of tyranny. Shops and houses have been pulled down by the Cantonment Magistrate, without due compensation, and no redress has been obtained by recurring to the District authorities. Arbitrary rules are made, vexatious orders issued, ungrounded decisions are forcibly executed, a hundred deeds of oppression are performed; and yet no redress can be got because the judicial and executive or administrative powers are in one and the same set of hands. It is time that an independent committee of officers unconnected with the Lahore Division be appointed to investigate and report upon the state of affairs in this district, which reflect great discredit on British rule.

. . . . . .

These and similar acts are widely spreading an idea among the native population, who know no better, that there is no justice for natives, and no care for their interests. . . . . It is not well that these impressions should be allowed to spread further; and I beg of you to help us in bringing these matters before the public that an end may be put to these vexations as illegal as they are impolitic.

Yours truly
X.

Ferozepore, 25th August 1881.

FRIDAY, 2ND SEPTEMBER.

WE OBSERVE that the only paper from an Indian presented to the Medical Congress was a note on some Indian Remedies by Rai Kanyelal Dey Bahadur.

THE JAPANESE GOVERNMENT has appointed a Special Commissioner to study the subject of cremation, and he is now investigating the merits of the Italian system at Milan. Japan is really the most advanced country in all Asia.

TWENTY-THREE thousand six hundred and sixty-three persons visited the Indian Museum during the month of August last, of whom 21,089 were native males and 2218 native females. The number of European visitors were only 366.

OUR GOSSAIN DURGAPORE CORRESPONDENT writes:

A few weeks ago you had the kindness after personal inspection to remark on the bad state of the Hanskhali-Kishnaghur Road and suggested thorough repairs at once. Since then the Municipal Commissioners have taken it up in right earnest and it may be hoped it would be finished shortly. We wish similar steps were taken in regard to some of the Goari Lanes, they are muddy at several places. This year Goari is healthier than Krishnaghur. Some residents of the latter place have taken up their quarters in Goari, there is not a family in Krishnaghur which is not laid up with fever, the Municipality is poor but we do not know why was the Hanskhali Road included in it. It must have been some gentle pressure, which has made the Commissioners yield.

THE SAME correspondent relates the following painful story, which occurred at Buggoola a month ago:

A young Hindoo widow having had a quarrel with some members of her late husband's family at Ranaghat left the place in high dudgeon and travelled by the up-night train to Buggoolah with a view to go to her father's house at Krishnaggur. On the Buggoolah side of Hanskhally she gave a rupee to the ghariwalah who had driven her there for change. While waiting for the man's return some other ghariwalas approached her and by their manner she apprehended some outrage. In her terror she ran to the river and plunged herself into the water where she was drowned. The Police we hear have arrested the Hackney carriage driver and the case was under investigation. I give the story as I have received it. I have not heard any thing about it since.

SIR ASHLEY EDEN paid Mr. Mackenzie the compliment of inviting a select company of his friends, both European and native, to meet him at Belvedere last Tuesday evening on the eve of his departure for Simla. Mr. Mackenzie carries our best wishes. He will we have no doubt vindicate Bengal in the estimation of the Viceroy. He is destined to occupy some day the same house where his friends met on last Tuesday to bid him good bye!

WE HAVE received the following from a correspondent at Debanundpore in the Hooghly district:

It is not, I fear, much to the credit of Government that while it delights in big administration reports upon the material condition of its subjects in remote corners of the province, it should neglect to look after the welfare of places within hail of the metropolis. For several years past, the condition of the people in the district of Hooghly has been one of extreme suffering, brought on by a variety of causes, of which the scarcity of water and the prevalence of malarious fevers are the principal. The suffering is not confined to any particular tract or locality, but has extended more or less over the whole western area of the district. Look at the condition of the villages in the immediate neighbourhood of Hooghly. Passing from Tribanee through the villages of Satgong, Chandenpore, Balore, Debanundpore, Bajra, and many more of greater or less importance, the sight that meets one's eyes is one of desolation and ruin, of deserted homesteads and fields abandoned to wild animals. Now, this is a sad commentary on the activity of our district officers, who might if they chose see with their own eyes the state of things and apply the proper remedy. There was, indeed, some stir about the matter during the time Mr. Pellew was Magistrate, and an elaborate scheme was prepared to irrigate the district by the construction of a sluice gate at Selimabad and turning the waters of the Damuda into the channels of the Saraswatee and Kanaradee. Subscriptions were also raised to which some of the villages mentioned above made liberal contributions for the furtherance of the project. Judge then of the disappointment of the people when I say that the scheme yet remains a dead letter and beyond some occasional notice in the papers the question has been fairly shelved. It is very kind of you, Mr. Editor, that on many occasions you gave tongue to the dumb millions whose interests are concerned in the question, and confident of your sympathy, I venture to lay it once more before the public. As a consequence of this deplorable state of things, fever epidemic has broken out in several parts (and earlier than in other years, a result no doubt of the unwholesomeness of the water on which people had to depend during the hot weather,) and is decimating the wretched population. Does not this furnish additional evidence of the truth enunciated by the late Rajah Digumber Mitter and yet Govt. is slow to accept the remedy. I will touch upon one more question in passing. It is the standing complaint of the unequal appropriation of the Road Cess funds. There are at present three roads leading from Hooghly to the villages lying to its west, viz. (1), The Dhonekhally road, (2), Dwarbasina Road, (3), The feeder road to the Hooghly Railway Station running through Kajidanga up to Satgong. Of these, one only, the Dhonekhally road, is undergoing some improvement. The rest are in a lamentably bad condition and at this season, is at diverse places, entirely under water. May I venture to express a hope that His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal will be pleased to direct an enquiry into the circumstances related above and bring relief to the unfortunate sufferers.

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SATURDAY, 3RD SEPTEMBER.

MR. G. H. EVANS has resigned his seat as additional member of the Viceroy's Legislative Council. Mr. W. C. Bonnerjee would make a worthy successor of Mr. Evans in the Council.

HIS EXCELLENCY the Viceroy is pleased to select Hafiz Abdulla Khan from among the descendants of Nawab Ghulam Hossain Khan to succeed his father in the hereditary title of Nawab.

HIS EXCELLENCY the Viceroy is pleased to confer on Babu Jaiprokash Lal, Manager of the Estates of the Maharaja of Dumraon, the title of Rai Bahadur as a personal distinction. Babu Jaiprokash Lal is one of the leading spirits of Behar.

IT IS stated that the Secretary of State for India has ordered that all bonuses and pensions which have been withheld from officers who retired from the Public Works Department last year, on the ground of their having subsequently accepted appointments under local fund boards and Road Cess Committees, should be at once paid up with interest at four per cent. on the amount stopped. This is a righteous decision.

IT IS said that Mr. Goschen will shortly start for India on a tour.

THE ORIENTAL MISCELLANY for September is to hand. There are several interesting articles in this number. The articles entitled "Political Tendencies" and "the price of our civilization" will repay perusal.

WE HAVE received the following telegrams from the Press Commissioner's Office:

Simla, August 29th.—Letters dated the 23rd instant received at Chaman, say that Sirdar Aziz Khan with his force had halted by the Amir's order at Shahjui. The Amir himself with Infantry, Cavalry, guns and some Irregulars was expected to reach Khelat i-Ghilzai on the 29th, but it seems improbable that he will arrive so soon. It is said that a force under Mohamed Kudus Khan is making a counter movement on Herat. A report is repeated, but requiers confirmation, that Ayub intended marching on the 28th, leaving Sardar Hashim Khan in charge of Kandahar.

31st.—A letter from Kandahar received at Chaman, dated 30th August, says that Ayub marches on or about the 1st September, taking with him seven weak regiments, leaving two disarmed Kabuli regiments in Kandahar. All Chiefs of importance have been ordered to accompany him. Sartip Nur Muhammad commands the tribal Horse. The Merchants and cultivators are said to be discontented with Ayub's Government. News received from Kilat, dated 23rd August, says that Aziz Khan with his force has halted at Shahjui for facility of supplies. The Amir with Infantry, Militia, Cavalry and guns was at Beh or Mushaki. A letter received from the Amir's camp at Pul Maidan, dated 15th August, shows that he was pushing on by daily marches, and hoped to reach Guzni on the 19th. The Amir's advance is stated to have caused a market change in his favour throughout the country.

September 1.—It is reported from Kandahar that small parties of deserters from Kabul are coming in. Mohammad Ishak, brother of Hashim, remains in Kandahar as Governor. During the last few days Ayub has sent a lakh of rupees to Birat. The officers of the Kabul regiments who took service with Ayub after the battle, have been sent to Farrah.

2.—It is reported from Kandahar that Ayub was still at Kandahar on the 30th, and is believed to have no intention of advancing beyond Khoji-i-Akhund. Kazi Shamsuddin has left Kandahar in the direction of Kelat-i-Ghilzai.

3rd.—The London *Times* of 6th August contains a telegram from Lahore stating that their correspondent had been assured that the Kabul envoy brought a message from the Amir reminding the Viceroy that the Amir had earnestly begged the Government to hold Kandahar for one year in order to enable Amir to secure his position. There is no foundation for this story no such message was brought by the envoy nor had the Amir ever made such a request.

3rd.—Road from Peshawar to Jellalabad reported safe. Road is open from Jellalabad to Kabul but reported dangerous. Asmatulla Khan Ghilzai said to be arranging for safety of road by the Amir's orders.

WE TAKE from the morning papers the following telegrams of the week:

London, August, 29th.—The Marquis of Tweedale, Lord Howth, Lord Reay, Sir Vernon Harcourt, Sir Frederick Johnstone, Sir D. C. Majoribanks and Sir H. J. Tufton have all been raised to the peerage. The Bank of England has decided not to sell any more bar gold for the present.

29th.—The latest bulletins state that President Garfield is mending.

30th.—The enquiry respecting the loss of the *Doterel* indicates that the explosion was the result of absence of ventilation in the magazine.

31st.—Advices from the Cape state that the Union Steamship Company's steamer *Teuton*, has been wrecked off Quvin point, Algoa Bay. 200 souls were on board, of whom only 27 were saved.

2nd September.—Lieutenant Colonel Kennedy, Bengal Staff Corps, was drowned yesterday, whilst boating at Edenbridge.

2nd.—Mr. Lowther, the Conservative candidate, has been elected Member for Lincolnshire by a large majority in the place of Mr. R. Laycock, the Liberal Member, deceased.

New York August 28th.—The latest bulletins state that President Garfield's condition is improved.

Smyrna August 28th.—A terrible earthquake, destroying immense amount of property, has occurred at Tchsme, (Cheshme?)

Tunis August 29th.—The Arabs are threatening Susa which the French will probably occupy.

THERE were 199 deaths in Calcutta during the week ending 27th August, of which 16 were from cholera, none from small-pox 65 from fevers, 26 from bowel complaints, 5 from suicide and accidents, 12 from pthisis and asthma, 23 from tetanus and the

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rest from other causes. Six children were still-born, 49 died between the ages of 15 days old and under and above 15 days and under one year. Among non-Asiatics and mixed races the deaths were 12. The average of daily mortality was 28 4.

WE HAVE to acknowledge with thanks the receipt of the under-mentioned publications and periodicals :—1. Report of the Police of the Lower Provinces, Bengal Presidency, for 1880. 2. Annual statement of the Sea-borne Trade and Navigation of the Bengal Presidency vol. I. for 1880-81. 3. A Hand-book of Rules relating to pay, service examinations, and travelling allowances of officers in civil employ in the Lower Provinces, compiled by I. C. Bose M. A. Asstt. Comptroller General. 4. Trade and Navigation Accounts of British India for July, 1881, and the four months, 1st April to 31st July 1881. 5. A memorial to the Viceroy from the Hindu Raieses, Chowdhouries, Mahaldars, and Residents of Mooltan. 6. The Gaikwar's Contingent—reprinted with additions and references from the Maharatta Newspaper of Poona. 7. Army Circulars for June 1881 and a special number for July 1881. 8. Statement showing net Revenue and Expenditure of India from 1869-70 to 1879-80 and as estimated for 1880-81 and 1881-82 (Parliamentary Paper.) 9. Return of all Loans raised in India and England chargeable on the revenues of India for last year from 1857-58 to 1879-80 inclusive &c. (Parliamentary Paper.) 10. The Vaccination Inquirer and Health-Review for August 1881. 11. The Five Principal Musicians of the Hindus or a brief exposition of the essential students of Hindu Music as set forth by the five Celestial Musicians of India. An offering to the Fifth International Congress of Orientalists to be held at Berlin in September 1880. By Raja Showrendra Mohun Tagore, Mus. Doc. F.R. S.L. M R.A.S. C.I.E. &c. 12. The Prevention of C. D.(original text.) Part II. 13. Records of the Geological Survey of India, Vol. XIV. Part 3, 1881. 14. Progress Report of Forest Administration on the Lower Provinces of Bengal for 1880-81. 15. Report on the Operations and Progress of the Punjab University College for 1880-81. 16. Homœopathic Treatment of Cholera in Bengali. 17. Yavanik Parakram, a Romance in Bengali. By Nilratan Rai Chowduri. 18. Oriental Miscellany for September 1881. 19. Bunga Durshun, No. 85, for 1288 B.E. 20. Dr. Ramdas Sen's address in Sanskrit to the International Oriental Congress, 1881. 21. The Christian Woman, a Bengali monthly, for August, 1881. 22. Aryadurshun, Vol. VI. No 12, 23. The Vision of Love—a Poem in Bengali. By Sib Chunder Mitter. 24. A new mode of correcting exercises adapted to Indian Schools and Colleges. Part I. By W. H. Livingstone.

WE THANK Dr. Ramdas Sen for a copy of his Sanskrit ode to the Fifth International Oriental Congress, 1881. It has been translated into English by Shyamaji Krishnavarma of Baliol College.

INDIAN ASSOCIATION FOR THE CULTIVATION OF SCIENCE.
(210, Bow-Bazar Street.)

Practical Class in Chemistry under Babu Tara Prasanna Roy, F. C. S., F. I. C., on Wednesday, the 7th Inst, at 5 P. M.

Lecture by the Very Rev. Father Lafont, S. J., C. I. E., on Thursday, the 8th Inst., at 7½ P. M.,
Subject: Eclipses of the Sun.

Lecture by Dr. Mahendra Lal Sircar, on Friday the 9th Inst, at 7½ P. M.
Subject: Heat; its Nature and Sources.

Lecture by Babu Tara Prasanna Roy, F.C.S. F.I.C., on Saturday, the 10th Inst., at 3 P. M.
Subject: Arsenic and Antimony.

The Hindoo Patriot.

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 5, 1881.

THE PROROGATION OF PARLIAMENT.

PARLIAMENT has been prorogued. The following is a telegraphic summary of the Queen's address :

London, 27th August.—Parliament was prorogued to-day until the 12th November. The Queen, in her speech, says her relations with all foreign Powers continue to be cordial and amicable. Her Majesty makes allusion to the satisfactory settlement of the Greek frontier question; to the assurances given by France regarding Tunis and Tripoli; to the Transvaal Convention, which has secured local autonomy to the Boers, and to the suspension of hostilities in Basutoland.

Her Majesty then mentions the withdrawal of her forces from Candahar, and says she has no reason to conclude that peace will be disturbed on the North-West Frontier of India through the contest now going on between the Amir and Ayub Khan, and adds that it will be her object, whilst respecting Affghan independence, to promote peace by her friendly offices when opportunity should offer for a restoration of peace.

With respect to the Treaty of Commerce with France, Her Majesty says the negotiations are at present suspended, but it will continue to be her desire to use her best efforts towards the conclusion of a treaty on favourable terms.

Her Majesty hopes the benefit of the Irish Land Act will be commensurate with the care bestowed upon it by her Parliament.

The recent regulating of her forces, Her Majesty says, will not fail to render more efficient the military organisation of the country.

In conclusion, Her Majesty regrets the absence of further legislation during the past session, and expresses her hope that the condition of Ireland may so improve as to enable her Government to either dispense with, or abate coercive measures.

The all-absorbing topic of the last session was the Irish Land Bill. All other questions were either shelved or slurred over. As Lord Hartington in his speech at the Lord Mayor's dinner said, "it must be admitted that in spite of the laborious character of the Session, the result will have been entirely inadequate." This "inadequate result" is partly attributed to the obstructiveness of the Irish Home Rulers. His Lordship thus expressed himself on the subject: "Parliamentary institutions as now constituted are no longer competent to meet the wants and requirements of the country." His Lordship added: "We can have no better wish for the House of Commons and no better wish for the country than that during the recess, which I hope we may shortly be permitted to enjoy, we may have the leisure, and I trust the ability to devise those reforms which are necessary to restore the House of Commons to its ancient efficiency." In spite of the obstructiveness of the Home Rulers the Irish Land Bill has passed into law, and Mr. Gladstone justly took pride in this great fact at the Lord Mayor's Dinner. He said: "I trust it may be in our power to add to the statute-book a law which may have the effect of bettering the lot of millions of our fellow-creatures in Ireland, of improving the relations of classes, of bringing the people into closer union with the institutions of their country, and thereby of contributing to that great work, the promotion of the stability and the happiness of the nation to which we are all, whatever may be our differences of political opinion, sincerely and cordially devoted. Such a measure, perhaps though I fear it will stand nearly alone, may leave not altogether unhonoured the history of the Session of 1881." And time will vindicate the claims of the great measure.

As regards Indian politics the last Session of Parliament was quite barren. Except a few skirmishes on the Affghan question, more particularly about the evacuation of Kandahar, the Indian field was left almost unoccupied. Some interest was created in the Affghan question from the circumstance that Lord Lytton, the late Viceroy, undertook to vindicate his policy, but beyond some oratorical display there was no practical result attained. As for other Indian questions although there were interpellations now and then they never rose to the dignity of a debate. The ranks of Indian friends in Parliament have become thinner. The Liberal Ministry has absorbed some of the best friends we have had, for instance Mr. Fawcett in the House of Commons and Lord Northbrook in the House of Lords. Mr. Fawcett is a host in himself, and his presence in the Opposition was a tower of strength to India. But as a member of the Government, he has been obliged to seal his lips. The only members, who now and then say a few words about India are Mr. O'Donnell, Sir George Campbell, and Sir David Wedderburn. Mr. O'Donnell is most persistent, and however he may be disliked because he is a Home Ruler, it cannot be denied that he is most useful as an interrogator on Indian questions. Sir George Campbell, however arbitrary while out here, is quite liberal and sympathetic in his Parliamentary utterances regarding India. Sir David Wedderburn is also always ready to serve India. But what can this small phalanx do? The accession of the Liberals to power has greatly thinned the ranks of the friends of India in Parliament. This is a matter of the deepest regret for India

THE NEW PUBLIC WORKS POLICY.

IT was Lord Dalhousie, who gave the greateat impetus to the execution of public works under the Government of the late East India Company. It was his Lordship, who introduced the guarantee system, and it was under this system the most important lines of Indian Railways were laid down. It is true that for years together the Government has had to pay out of the revenues large amounts by way of interest, but the advantages to the State and people from the establishment of Railway communication throughout the country have been immense. In fact the revenues have been materially benefited by the Railways by offering facilities to the transport of goods and thus stimulating trade, and also by raising the value of land. But the guarantee system had done its work, and the Government thought that it should now undertake minor Railways as State Railways. These Railways were required for two purposes, 1stly Military Railways for strategical purposes, and secondly Famine Railways for the improvement of internal communications and for the easy transport of food-grains in times of scarcity and distress. This scheme was first propounded by Lord Mayo, and subsequently developed by Lords Northbrook and Lytton. But it has been found that State Railways are expensive, and that the Government has not capital to carry them out. Besides, the embargo put upon public works expenditure by an edict of Parliament beyond two millions and a half per annum has fettered the Government of India. Major Baring has accordingly with the support of the present Secretary of State initiated the policy of carrying out Railways and other reproductive works by means of private enterprise. For many reasons the encouragement of private enterprise in this country is much to be desired. It will be, as Major Baring says, the best school for the people of this country to learn the art of self-government. It is also gratifying to observe that capitalists in England are in sympathy with the present liberal spirit of the Indian Government and are willing to invest their capital in Indian works. If they will come forward in this manner, it will mark a new era in the history of British connection with this country. It is, therefore, of the highest importance that liberal encouragement should be given to them. But the terms of encouragement should be regulated with due regard to the interests of the tax-payers of India. The Messrs. Rothschild have made the first start, and the terms offered to them are published in the last *Gazette of India*. We are free to confess that the first terms ought to be sufficiently encouraging to induce capitalists to come forward, but as we read them some of them seem to be too liberal. The Company projected by the Messrs. Rothschild will in the first place construct a line from Calcutta to Bongong, Jessore, and Khulnèa (109 miles), and they have got the option of constructing the following lines: I. The construction, &c., and working of railways within the tract of country lying between the Eastern Bengal Railway on the west and north, and the river Ganges on the east. II. The construction, &c., and working of railways east of the Ganges, and Megna in traffic connection with the primary undertaking by river steamers, including railway communication with Dacca and Mymensing; with power also to acquire and work any mines of coal in this section. III. The extension of the primary undertaking from some suitable point thereof across the Eastern Bengal line, and on to Moorshedabad and the Ganges. The Secretary of State has accepted these proposals on the understanding that in the event of the Government desiring to construct railways coming within the terms of those clauses, or receiving any offer from third parties to construct them, the company to be formed by the promoters shall have a preferential right to the cons-

truction of all such lines of railway, subject to their acceptance within six months of the offer, on terms to be named by Government, to carry out any such line. It is also to be understood that this preferential right shall cease from the 1st January 1890. As regards the Dacca and Mymensing line with a branch to Aircha opposite Goalundo, the Secretary of State says "that the necessity for a decision, in the sense of the preceding paragraph, has now become necessary, the Government of India having proposed to construct the above as State lines on the metre gauge." We think these conditions are fair enough. The Company to be formed by the Messrs. Rothschild will be a great body, and if they are willing to undertake alone the lines they propose, nothing could be more desirable than that. But if local capitalists should come forward and offer more advantageous terms, their offer ought to be accepted. The Secretary of State has accordingly reserved to himself the liberty of naming the terms under the latter contingency. A contract has been entered into with the Company on the following general terms:

I.—The direction and location of the line, as well as the extent and situation of the Calcutta terminus and of the stations and station yards, to be subject to the approval of Government. The general character of the structures, permanent way and rolling stock to be in conformity with the established standards of the Indian 5 feet 6 inch gauge.

II.—Subject to the approval provided for in the preceding paragraph, the Government will obtain and supply without cost to the Company, the land required for the original construction of the railway and the works appertaining thereto, and will grant a lease of the same to the company free of rent, for 99 years.

III.—The Company to undertake to raise the capital in due time. A deposit of 10 per cent. to be paid as a first instalment into the Bank of England to the account of the Secretary of State, and further instalments of the capital to be paid in like manner as funds may be needed for the purposes of the Company.

The sums thus deposited to be withdrawn from time to time by the Company, as required by them for expenditure on their undertaking.

IV.—The Secretary of State for India will pay to the Company in London, half-yearly, interest at the rate of 4 per cent. per annum on the capital of the Company deposited with him, until the same shall be withdrawn for the purposes of the Company. Furthermore, until the opening of the "primary" undertaking for traffic throughout, or until the 30th June 1886, whichever event shall first occur, the Secretary of State will advance to the Company half-yearly in London such sum as, added to the net earnings of the Company in such half-year, shall be equal to the half-yearly interest at the rate of 4 per cent per annum on the capital actually withdrawn for expenditure.

V.—All sums thus advanced to the Company by the Secretary of State shall be repaid in London, with simple interest thereon, at the rate of 4 per cent, per annum, by the appropriation of half the net earnings of the undertaking in excess of 5 per cent. on the capital for the time being issued and paid up, until all such advances, with accrued interest shall have been paid off.

VI.—The Secretary of State to have power to purchase the undertaking of the Company and its equipment at the end of 30 years or 50 years from the 1st January 1882, by the payment of a sum of 125*l.* for every 100*l.* of stock on giving one year's notice of his intention to do so.

VII.—At the end of 99 years the works and buildings of the railway, together with the permanent way and structures fixed to the soil, shall become the property of the Secretary of State, who shall then pay the Company the value of the rolling stock and all the moveable property pertaining to the undertaking.

VIII—The Government, if so desired by the Company will endeavour to obtain for them on reasonable conditions running powers for their engines, or goods, or passenger-vehicles over such portions, of the Eastern Bengal Railway and the Calcutta Municipal and Port Commissioner's Railways, as, in the opinion of the Government, may be necessary to ensure to the Company convenient access to a suitable terminal station at Calcutta, and to the warehouses and wharves on the Hooghly, or may, in the opinion of the Government, be otherwise expedient.

IX.—The rates and fares to be charged to be within maxima to be fixed by the Government, such maxima not to be lower than those in force on the Eastern Bengal Railway.

X.—In case of failure to work the line (by running at least one train each way per day) the Government to have power to step in and take possession, on terms to be specified in the contract.

XI.—The arrangements for the mail services, troops, &c., to be the same as on the Guaranteed Railways.

XII.—The arrangements for maintaining a telegraph on the Company's railway and a police force shall be such as are provided in the contract with the East Indian Railway Company, dated 22nd December 1879.

XIII.—The Company to be subject to the provisions of the Indian Railway Act of 1879, and to all other Acts of the Indian Legislature in force for the time being in the province of Bengal.

The accounts to be kept by the Company and the returns of traffic shall be in the forms adopted for the Indian Railways worked under the supervision of the Government, and shall be rendered at the cost of the Company, and at the times prescribed by the Government.

XV.—Until all advances made by Government have been repaid by the Company, the accounts of the Company shall be subject to audit by an officer to be appointed by Government, and shall not be closed or accepted until they have been so audited.

XVI.—An arbitration clause will be included in the contract, but the Secretary of State in Council cannot depart from the terms stated in the first two of the aforesaid conditions, under which the Government will supply land free to the Company.

In the first place we object to the second condition which provides that land should be supplied to the Company by Government free of cost. We would have no objection, if the Government would give the land already in its possession, but we think it would not be consistent with the interests of the tax-payers to purchase for the Company land out of the revenues. Why should the Government go to this expense? In the second place why should the Government pay interest during construction upon capital to be expended by the Company? Such a condition is simply preposterous. It is their own business, and they ought to meet the interest out of their own profits. In the third place, although the limited guarantee of interest up to June 1886 is objectionable on principle, because the Government has abandoned the guarantee policy, still we have no objection to it, if the Company consider that condition absolutely necessary to the success of their project. In the fourth place we do not think the Secretary of State has acted fairly by conceding to the Company running powers over the lines of the Eastern Bengal Railway, the Calcutta Municipality, and the Port Commissioners without first taking the consent of those bodies. The other conditions are fair enough, and if the Company will execute the works with due despatch, the country will decidedly gain. Barring the above points we entirely approve of the terms conceded to the Company, and we are of opinion that the policy initiated by Major Baring and endorsed by Lord Hartington deserves the warmest support of all well-wishers of this country.

RAILWAY COMMUNICATION WITH ASSAM.

ON MONDAY last an influential deputation representing the Chamber of Commerce, the British Indian Association, the Trades Association, and others interested in the tea districts of Assam waited upon the Lieutenant-Governor to urge upon His Honor the necessity of establishing Railway communication with Assam. The deputation laid before His Honor the scheme put forward by the Hon'ble Mr. Prestage for a line starting from Naraingunge, and running through Dacca and Mymensingh to Gowhatty, connected with the E. B. Railway at Goalundo by means of a steam ferry. This scheme appears to offer the quickest means of communication between Calcutta and Assam, besides promising to open up Sylhet and Cachar; and the fact that it will afford cheap food to these districts by connecting them with the surplus rice-producing tracts of Bengal, commends it, in a very high degree, to the support of all who are interested in the tea districts of Assam. The deputation based their terms on those, which had been already conceded to the Bengal Central Railway Company, and asked for two new ones, *viz.* that the Government shall subscribe one-fourth of the capital required, and also guarantee three-fourths of the interest on debenture loans to be raised by the Company. With regard to the financial conditions proposed in the address of the deputation opinion was not unanimous. The Hon'ble the Maharaja Joteendramohun Tagore C. S. I. on behalf of the British Indian Association stated that the Association had not had time to consider these proposals, and they did not therefore pledge themselves to them. Mr. Inglis, President of the Chamber, explained, that these proposals had been inserted in the address with a view to elicit public discussion.

The reply of the Lieutenant-Governor was fair and encouraging. His Honor said: "We have had surveys made of a line from Goalundo to Dacca and Mymensingh with a branch line to Naraingunge. The cost of this has been estimated at 124½ lakhs of rupees, but of this no less than 62½ lakhs were for the short distance of 43 miles between Goalundo and Dacca. In the scheme put forward by Mr. Prestage, this portion of the line is abandoned, and a steam ferry of powerful and quick steamers is substituted." His Honor remarked: "I have no doubt whatever that, for many years to come, at least, a ferry will be better than a railway over that part of the country. We want fair and easy communication and not great speed, and all that we require can be provided without the enormous expense of the Aircha Dacca section, with its expensive bridges, and costing no less than 1½ lakhs of rupees a mile." His Honor added:

From Naraingunge to Dacca there is no sort of difficulty, and the same may be said of the section from Dacca to Mymensingh which would cost only Rs. 70,000 a mile, or say 60 lakhs. Indeed, the investigation into the prospects of a line to Mymensingh are so promising, and the work appears to be so necessary a work, that it has already been determined to construct it as a State line, and it is now upon the programme to be taken up as soon as the Tirhoot and Durbhungah extensions had been completed. To show you how entirely the Government of India approves of this project, I may without breach of confidence read out to you a paragraph of the despatch from the Government of India to H. M. Secretary of State, giving an outline of the railway works it is proposed to carry out in 1881-82, and the following year—"But in consideration of the population and extent of Bengal, we have promised to place the same sum (*i.e.*, 25 lakhs), that has been given this year, regularly at the disposal of the Bengal Government until the completion of another set of lines, stretching from Dacca in the South in two branches, to a point opposite Goalundo, the terminus of the E. B. Railway on the Ganges, and to the town of Mymensingh on the Brahmapootra River. The length of these two lines is 128 miles, and their estimated cost 125 lakhs of rupees. Plans and estimates of the work have been submitted to us for sanction, with a statement of the financial position of the Government of Bengal, and an undertaking to meet the charges for interest on the capital to be invested. These statements being in all respects satisfactory, and the importance of the line being indisputable—numerous petitions having been sent in to us urging its early construction, on account of the gradual silting up of the formerly navigable Mymensingh channel of the Brahmapootra River, we have the honor to solicit your Lordship's permission to allow the work to be taken in hand by the Government of Bengal as soon as funds can be released for the purpose from the Tirhoot Railway extension, that is, in 1882-83. We ought to add that the extension of the Dacca Mymensingh branch towards Assam on the left bank of the Brahmapootra River is probably the best railway that can be constructed for opening out Lower Assam. It is our intention to instruct Bengal to finish this branch before it commences the other more expensive branch to Aircha—opposite Goalundo."

The Lieutenant-Governor promised a survey of the proposed line, and reserved a discussion of the details till the scheme was matured. At the same time His Honor strongly supported the idea of employing local capital for local works. He said:

Though, as I have said, I am aware that native capitalists are very cautious in respect to such undertakings as railways, I believe that the time is coming when they will feel that it is more to their advantage to invest their funds in such works than in land, which does not now yield the return it once did. Nothing but good can come from native capitalists taking a pecuniary interest in our public works, and it is obviously an advantage to Government to pay interest locally in silver on capital so invested rather than have to remit money to English capitalists. There is no doubt an enormous amount of capital awaiting investment in the country, though I am happy to think that within the last few weeks a good deal of it has found investment in trade. I believe that the Government of India are very anxious to see native capital thus employed.

We entirely agree, but we think both English and Indian capitalists can work on parallel lines without coming into collision with each other. In this country although capital is seeking investment, native capitalists have not much confidence in undertakings like Railways or in joint-stock enterprise generally. They must be gradually "educated" to appreciate them. And they will join only in company of English friends. The example of British capitalists will teach them a wholesome lesson. We are, therefore, of opinion that encouragement should be given to both British and Indian capitalists.

THE CALCUTTA CORPORATION.

WE congratulate the Municipal Commissioners of Calcutta on the Resolution of Government on their last Administration Report. It is at once frank, fair, and just. It shews a generous appreciation by His Honor the Lieutenant Governor of the work done by the Commissioners, who we make no doubt will appreciate it in their turn. In the first place His Honor notices the attendance of the Commissioners at the meetings. He says: "Several of these Committees and Sub-Committees—notably the License Committee and the Sub-Committee for considering and cancelling bills in arrear—did excellent work, holding meeting after meeting until the object of their appointment was gained." Again: "On the whole, the Commissioners showed by their attendance at meetings a very credit-

able interest in the city entrusted to their care. Thirteen of the elected Commissioners and one nominated Commissioner attended 50 meetings or more than that number, and of the elected members only eight attended less than five times and none less than twice. It is much to be regretted that those Commissioners, whether elected or nominated, who have not time and inclination to attend meetings and Committees, do not at once resign and allow others having greater interest in municipal affairs to take their places." We hope the Commissioners will act upon this wise counsel. Referring to the financial administration of the Municipality the Lieutenant Governor remarks: "The finances of the Municipality are, the Lieutenant-Governor is glad to hope, now in a thoroughly prosperous condition. Although a further sum of 2½ lakhs of rupees was borrowed during the year, the net debt to Government and debenture-holders at the close of the year was, after deducting the Sinking Fund, Rs. 1,27,75,937 against Rs. 1,28,78,770 at the beginning of the year; the ordinary revenue exceeded the ordinary expenditure by Rs. 2,12,504; the actual balance at the close of the year, including the estimated value of stores in stock was Rs. 15,40,967 as compared with Rs. 12,07,264 at the close of the previous year; and the cash balance was Rs. 6,54,804 as compared with Rs. 7,92,577. That the improved financial condition of the Municipality is fully appreciated by the public was shown by the fact that the debenture loan of 2½ lakhs of rupees which the Corporation issued during the year, in order to pay for the pipes required for the independent pumping main between Tallah and Wellington Square and for the extension of the street water-supply, was tendered for more than six times over, nearly the whole loan being taken up at a premium of Rs. 2-9 per cent. and more than 13½ lakhs of rupees being offered at and above par. As a result of the vastly improved financial condition of the Municipality, the Budget Committee which met twelve times, and devoted much attention to the detailed estimates for 1881, were able to recommend a reduction of the house-rate from 8 per cent. to 7½ per cent., of the water-rate from 3½ to 3 per cent., and still greater reductions in the different classes of night-soil fees." Again: "It remains for the present Commissioners to complete the drainage works, to increase and extend the water-supply, to improve the bustees, and to continue the work of filling up tanks and widening streets and roads. These are works to which they may well devote some of the energy and ability they have shown in rescuing their finances from the precarious position in which they stood only three years ago. They have before them the example of their predecessors to stimulate them to action, and it should be their aim, as it was that of the Justices, to leave behind them a lasting record of their work in the shape of permanent sanitary improvements." His Honor then notices in detail the different fiscal departments of the Municipality, and expresses his satisfaction with the work done. His Honor remarks: "The arrears in both the Bill and Collector's Departments are still heavy, but the progress made in the past year will, the Lieutenant-Governor trusts, encourage both the Commissioners and the executive officers of the departments concerned to make further efforts to reduce the outstanding balances." While on this subject we exceedingly regret to observe that His Honor has been unjustly severe on the Vice-Chairman. His Honor has recorded the following remarks on that officer:

"Before passing from the consideration of the finances and financial administration of the Municipality to other subjects of interest, the Lieutenant-Governor desires to draw the special attention of the Commissioners to the report of the auditors which forms appendix G of their own report. In paragraph 2 of their letter, the auditors give a list of nine heads of account which could not be analysed and cleared owing to the absence of details. The unsatisfactory condition of five of these accounts was brought to the notice of the Commissioners in paragraph 5 of the Auditor's report of the 17th March 1880, and on that report the Vice-Chairman remarked that the balances were under investigation. Since then it appears, from the Vice-Chairman's note of the 13th July last, that only one of the accounts has been cleared, while other accounts are now in an equally unsatisfactory state. The Lieutenant-Governor is compelled to say that the explanation given by Baboo Shama Churn Dey is not one that the Commissioners should accept as sufficient. It could not take more than a few hours of real work to analyse and clear each of the accounts noticed by the Auditors, and Sir Ashley Eden can see no valid excuse for the delay of fifteen months since the matter was first pressed upon the Vice-Chairman's attention. Again, in paragraph 6 of their report, the Auditors state that no advance has apparently been made towards a settlement of the account of the late Collector, although the unsatisfactory state of the account was noticed in their report of March 1880. The explanation given by the Vice-Chairman in this matter is really no explanation at all; for, although it is true that a Sub Committee was appointed last year to assist the Vice-Chairman in clearing the late Collector's account, it appears from paragraph 4 of the present report that the Sub-Committee only met once. The supervision of the accounts of the Municipality is the special duty of the Vice-Chairman, and in both the matters noticed above it appears to the Lieutenant Governor that that officer has failed to realize his responsibility. His explanations in both cases are curt and unsatisfactory, and the Sub-Committee associated with him in connection with the late Collector's accounts appears only to have served as a screen to his own dilatoriness.'

The delay complained of is easily explained. The Entally accounts are now in the hands of a special Committee, and the investigation of the old Collectorate accounts has been given up as an unprofitable game. The Commissioners have already resolved on the report of the special Committee to drop that enquiry. That Committee had been appointed by the Commissioners and not by the Vice-Chairman, and so we do not see how they could be employed as "a screen for his own dilatoriness." That Committee comprised some of the most active Commissioners, and if these had seen any good in carrying on further enquiry, they would not have delayed it. So the delay was not the fault of the Vice-Chairman. But we can boldly say that since Babu Shama Churn Dey has become the Vice-Chairman due obedience to the Budget grants is rigorously enforced. Even the Engineer's Department, which is notoriously reckless in expenditure, has learnt habits of obedience, moderation, and regularity. There is now a general spirit among the departmental officers of the Municipality to conform to the Budget, and it is due chiefly to the rigorous discipline and supervision exercised by the Vice-Chairman. If the Lieutenant-Governor had known what good work this really deserving officer has done in a quiet way by checking excess expenditure, he would not have written of him in such harsh terms. But the Commissioners know him and appreciate him.

The Lieutenant-Governor very properly impresses upon the Commissioners the magnitude of the wrok before them. He justly tells them that much remains to be done in the way of improvement. He says: "Until all the bustees in Calcutta are drained and ventilated, and their conservancy properly attended to, and until all the nuisance tanks in and around the town have been filled in, the city cannot be considered secure against epidemics of cholera and other diseases." Quite true, but all in good time. Rome was not built in a day. Within the last sixteen years Calcutta has vastly improved. Many an Old Indian, who had seen Calcutta thirty years ago, when they now see it, really wonder at the improvements, effected within the short space of a decade and a half. The Lieutenant-Governor justly remarks that "the statement given shows that all the principal works and improvements that have been carried out in Calcutta at the expense of the town were begun, and either wholly or nearly finished before the present Corporation came into existence." But the present Commissioners have not been idle. They have undertaken the gigantic task of widening the Chitpore Road; they have lately sanctioned several important town improvements, though less costly; they are in earnest about bustee reform, but they want more facilities of law; they would have by this time doubled the supply of water, if they had not been hampered by Government with the obligation of extending the supply to the suburbs. But if they are encouraged by Government as they are in the present Resolution, they will naturally take increased interest in the work entrusted to them. Hitherto they had done up-hill work—they have endeavoured to mount the hill, but they have been pushed back by the unkind hand of Government. But they have not lost heart—they have gone on with unflagging energy and zeal. A better day is dawning upon them. The Government seems to be now kindly disposed towards them, and we hope there will be henceforth better understanding between the two. We are glad to observe that the services of both Mr. Souttar and Mr. Beverley are thus acknowledged by Government:

Mr. Souttar, who holds the substantive office of Chairman and who has done so much for the town, was absent on leave for more than seven months during the year, and even while he was on duty he was unfortunately prevented by ill-health from taking a very active part in the work of the Municipality, and was forced to avail himself to an unusual extent of the assistance of the Commissioners even in matters of local enquiry. During Mr. Souttar's absence Mr. Beverley officiated as Chairman, and the Lieutenant-Governor desires here to place on record his acknowledgments of the good work done by the latter officer during his temporary incumbency.

As the Commissioners gain experience, they will better understand their work, and will prove more useful.

FEVER IN THE NORTH-WESTERN PROVINCES.

IN 1879, it will be remembered, the fever epidemic was very prevalent and very fatal in the North-Western Provinces. Malarious fever for the first time made its appearance in an epidemic form in the Agra and Muttra districts during the last six months of 1878. The average mortality from fever of the previous five years in Agra had been 9,344, but the record for 1878 was no less than 32,439. In the same way the average of previous five years in Muttra had been 6,276, but the record for 1878 was 33,634. The difference in both instances was very marked; whereas no marked difference in respect to this matter was recorded in any other district in the North-Western Provinces at the same time. The unusually heavy mortality from fever in the Agra and Muttra districts during the last six months of 1878 indicated the existence of some special cause in the localities affected. Dr. Planck, Sanitary Commissioner, North-Western Provinces and Oudh, was deputed by the Local Government to enquire into the cause or causes of the outbreak. After carefully inspecting the localities of excessive fever prevalence and mortality in the Agra and Muttra districts, Dr. Planck reported that the climate and the temperature were identical everywhere throughout those districts, *but the excessive disease prevalence was confined to the villages bordered by the Agra Canal.* In his report for 1879, the Sanitary Commissioner, North West Provinces and Oudh, discussed at some length the causes of the extreme fever prevalence in the North-Western Provinces during the last six months of that year. He showed, by incontestible facts and figures, that in the seven canal irrigated districts of Muzaffarnagar, Meerut, Bulandshahr, Aligarh, Muttra, Agra and Etah the disease had appeared two months earlier than elsewhere; and that the greatest mortality from the epidemic had occurred in the four Doab districts, Meerut, Bulandshahr, Aligarh and Etah. Throughout this continuous tract of country almost every person suffered from fever during the latter part of 1879; and the mean ratio of deaths from that cause in these four districts was 96·75 per 1,000 of the population. There was, of course, some special reason why of all parts of the province fever should especially prevail in the canal-irrigated Doab and its immediately adjoining districts on either side. Dr. Planck, after a very careful investigation, recorded his opinion in the following terms:—"There is but one circumstance which can account for this peculiarity of disease prevalence, and that is canal-irrigation."

In his report for the past year which has been recently published, Dr. Planck pursues this inquiry further, and brings forward additional evidence to prove that the severity of fever prevalence in the Doab districts is due to canal irrigation. The ratio of deaths from fever in the North-Western Provinces for 1880 is 23·11 per 1,000 of the population. These figures, no doubt, compare favourably with those for 1879, which was a year of extraordinary fever mortality, but then they are higher than the mean for the past five years—namely, 20·91 per 1,000. The districts of excessive mortality from fever in the past year were the Terai, Muzaffarnagar, Meerut, Futehpur, Saharanpur, Etawah, Farakhabad, Mainpuri, Cawnpore, Bulandshahr, Hardoi and Jhansi. The Terai has always been a home of fever disease, and the excessive mortality from this cause during the past year was due to the unusually heavy rainfall which oc-

curred in September of that year, and which caused the memorable Naini Tal landslip. The nine districts which succeed the Terai in order of severity of fever mortality are districts of the Doab. The ratios of 1880 recorded in these districts, Dr. Planck observes, "tend to confirm the opinion which will eventually be recognized as an incontrovertible truth—namely that the introduction of increased moisture into the land anywhere in this province, by means of canal irrigation, will be followed by increase of fever disease." The champions of canal irrigation, as Dr. Planck says, may be numerous and talented and they may receive cordial support in influential quarters, but facts—hard, stubborn facts which cannot be gainsaid—are on Dr. Planck's side, and no amount of ingenuity or sophistry can get over these. His annual reports since 1871 have shown a persistant high ratio of fever mortality in the country influenced by canal irrigation. Of ten districts of excessive ratio of fever mortality in 1871, 8 were districts in which the natural moisture of soil and air has been much increased by canal irrigation. Of 9 districts of excessive fever ratio in 1872, five were districts of canal irrigation. In 1873 Meerut and Balandshahr stood second and third on the list of districts of excessive fever deaths; and Dr. Planck ascribed their high ratio of mortality to excessive moisture resulting from over-irrigation in a badly drained country. The first 8 districts on the list of excessive fever ratio in 1874 were districts of canal irrigation. Of ten districts of excessive fever mortality in 1875, 9 were canal-irrigated districts of the Doab. In his report for 1875 Dr. Planck had pointed out that if excessive canal irrigation was a cause of fatal fever disease, it might be expected that Cawnpore would be the next district to suffer from this cause. This expectation was literally fulfilled. In 1876 Cawnpore appeared second on the list of districts of excessive fever deaths, and in 1877 it retained the same place. In 1878, Agra and Muttra, as we have said above, headed the list of excessive fever mortality, and Dr. Planck's local enquiry showed the disease to have been malarial fever present in epidemic prevalence for the first time within the memory of the present generation, and that the only new thing affecting those districts has been the introduction of canal irrigation from the newly-made Agra canal. The figures of mortality for 1879 proclaimed the country of the middle and upper Doab to be malarious in excess of any other large portion of the province. And, again, in 1880, the mortuary returns point the same lesson. "They serve," remarks Dr. Planck, to continue the series showing a persistent high ratio in the country longest influenced—namely, Saharanpur, Muzaffarnagar, Meerut, and Bulandshahr. * * * They show an increasing ratio in the country more recently influenced—namely, Farakhabad, Mainpuri, Etawah and Cawnpore."

It is needless to say that Sir George Couper does not concur in the opinions expressed by his Sanitary Commissioner. The Lieutenant-Governor, in fact, snubs Dr. Planck for the persistency with which he has since the last ten years called attention to the high ratio of fever mortality in the canal-irrigated country generally. "His Honor," writes the Secretary to the Government of the North-Western Provinces, "does not see that much is gained by reproduction of your opinions on this point, ignoring what has been or is being done, by confident assertions where there is room for considerable difference of opinion, or by show of statistics which it has been proved above, do not necessarily or probably warrant the conclusions drawn from them." When you cannot answer an opponent, the easiest and most convenient way to get out of the difficulty is certainly to close his mouth. Sir George Couper has followed this course. As Dr. Planck had rendered himself troublesome by bringing forward incontestible facts and figures to prove that the high ratio of fever mortality in the Doab districts is due to canal irrigation, the Lieutenant-Governor has practically told him that he must not pursue this subject in his future reports. No sensible man denies "the immense advantage reaped from the canal in districts liable to such devastating droughts as those of 1837 and 1860," and, we may add,—though Sir George Couper, for obvious reasons, omits it—of 1877. But to say that canal irrigation has proved an unmixed blessing is absurd. Colonel Brownlow, Chief Engineer to the Government of the North-Western Provinces, has been set up by the Lieutenant-Governor to demolish Dr. Planck. The Colonel says:—"During the autumn of 1879 the population of the North-Western Provinces and Oudh was decimated by most virulent malarious fever, *which attacked the inhabitants of irrigated and unirrigated districts alike. During the outturn of* 1880 *these provinces were, so far as I know, singularly free from fever, and yet the canal irrigation of kharif* 1880 *must have been certainly equal to, if not in excess of, that of kharif*, 1879" Sir George Couper of course, expresses his entire concurrence in Colonel Brownlow's views. But unfortunately for the Lieutenant-Governor and his chief Engineer, facts have an awkward habit of not submitting to authority. True, during the autumn months of 1879 the population of the North Western Provinces suffered from virulent malarious fever, but the disease was far more prevalent and far more fatal in the canal irrigated country and the immediately adjoining tracts than in the unirrigated districts. This is a most important fact which Sir George Couper and Colonel Brownlow conveniently ignore or overlook. Again, the figures of fever mortality for the ten years from 1871 to 1880, as we have said above, show a persistent high ratio in the country longest influenced and an increasing ratio in the country more recently influenced. In 1880, the districts of excessive mortality from fever, next to the Terai, were the districts of the Doab, into which increased moisture has been introduced by canal irrigation. Sir George Couper may sneer at Dr. Planck's labours, and he may snub him, but posterity we have no doubt, will recognize the Doctor's valuable services in this matter.

THE DECCAN AGRICULTURISTS RELIEF ACT.

THE results of the practical working of the Deccan Agriculturists' Relief Act have fully vindicated our criticisms on that precious piece of legislation. We have from the beginning strongly condemned the Act as one-sided, and openly called it a measure of confiscation. We have always held that Mr. Hope's Act has not solved the Agrarian Problem in the Deccan as it does not deal fairly with one of the chief interests involved in it. In prescribing a remedy for the indebtedness of the wretched kunbi, our "executive" legislature, for obvious reasons, did not go to the very root of the evil. The Act, without recognizing the real position of the Deccan ryot, practically approved a crusade against money-lenders, and sanctioned the wholesale confiscation of their property. The rigid and harsh character of the revenue system is the chief cause of the miserable condition of the cultivator in the Deccan Districts; but the Government paid no attention to it. The authors of the Deccan Agriculturist's Relief Act refused to see the ryot as he really is. They resorted to the expedient of robbing Peter to pay Paul. They wanted to relieve the ryot by confiscating the property of this sowcar, and thrust the latter into the back ground. When the Act was passed, we ventured to predict that it would almost put a stop to money-lending in the districts to which it applied; and events have shown that we were no false prophet.

We have before us the criticisms of Mr. Justice Raymond West, of the Bombay High Court, on the practical working of the Deccan Agriculturists' Relief Act. These criticisms uphold the correctness of our views in a remarkable manner. The Act has now been in operation for a year and a half, and Mr. Justice West shows how it has worked. He writes:

"The problem before us," it was said, "is how to keep the money-lender in his place to encourage and support him in all useful functions . . . We must foster due credit. . . . We must hold the ryot responsible in our courts for what he has really borrowed, not for what he has not; and make him repay by his own exertions all that he reasonably can repay, not set him free by sudden, one-sided or heroic remedies to enter on a fresh career of indebtedness."

Now, unless the general opinion is wholly mistaken, the most conspicuous consequence of the Act has been to oust the money-lender from his place by means of a one-sided remedy which has extinguished credit in making the ryot irresponsible. The whole class of those who furnished capital to the cultivator have, with a very few exceptions, closed their business, and except when retained by the hope of recovering some portion of the money due to them or by imprisonment at the suit of their own creditors they intend to leave the districts. Where the money-lenders have bought land or lent on mortgage, an early retreat is impossible; but their former function is no longer performed. As regards the ordinary ryot, the Act, by which it was said, "We must foster due credit," has simply extinguished it. The pressure of this annihilation of credit is as yet hardly felt. The harvest of last year was unusually abundant, and the ryots, not frittering away their fortunes in paying their debts, are revelling for one year in a fool's paradise. A single bad season will bring them to ruin, and even without a bad season their funds will, in three or four years, have been as much consumed in waste as if they had paid their debts. The difference will be that the creditors having been in many instancees impoverished and having in all cases become distrustful, the ryots will be without any resource to tide them over the first time of adversity.

The very idea of solving the Agrarian Problem in the Deccan by ignoring the money-lender is absurd. It could only have been conceived by a model Anglo-Indian revenue officer. At present the condition of the money-lender in the Deccan is deplorable. The advances he made during the late famine cannot be recovered, as the law has created almost insuperable difficulties in the way of the creditor's recovering his dues from his debtors. As a natural consequence of this, creditors have been ruined. For the last two years, that is to say, since the passing of Mr. Hope's Relief Bill, the Marwari money-lenders have been the principal inmates of the civil gaols. When the next bad season comes, the ryot cannot have the money-lender's help to tide him over the difficulty, and without any resource to fall back upon, he will be ruined. He will then have good reason to say of the authors of his relief measures—"save me from my friends." There is no hope that the State will take the place of the money-lender and make advances to the ryot in time of need.

The conciliation system has not been productive of much practical good. "The 16,000 cases out of 29,000 in which conciliation was tried and wholly failed," points out Mr. West, "represent the old proportion of contested suits quadrupled by the debtor having no costs to pay for an unconscientious defence." He then proceeds:—

The two advantages of the conciliation system are that in general the conciliator is rather nearer than the court to the debtor's house, and that no court-fees have to be paid. On the other hand, the conciliators being scattered about at places not convenient for the class of creditors, the latter are harassed by repeated and too often fruitless attendances which interfere with other business so as to cause considerable loss. For this, the borrowers must in the end pay, if borrowing continues at all. When conciliation fails, as it does in the great majority of cases, the creditor's time and travelling expenses have been thrown away; the debtor has been deprived of three or four days' earnings for nothing; and the witnesses, who have been prevailed on to attend, have been subjected to useless and vexatious harassment, if not to actual want.

We fully concur. We hope Mr. Justice West's criticism on the practical working of the Deccan Agriculturist's Relief Act will open the eyes of Lord Ripon to the real character of the measure. If the Government sincerely desires to improve the miserable condition of the Deccan ryot, it must go to the root of the evil, and materially alter its revenue system, both as regards assessment and collection. The disease must be correctly diagnosed before suitable remedy can be applied.

LATEST NEWS AND NOTES.

HIS HONOR the Lieutenant-Governor leaves for Midnapore this morning, and will return on the 8th instant. After a short stay in Calcutta His Honor will again proceed to Darjeeling, and will descend to the plains in November next. His Honor will then make a tour through some of the Behar districts, visiting Doomraon, Bettiah, and Hatwa, and on his way to Calcutta will invest the young Maharaja of Burdwan with the khilluts of his title at his own seat.

A CHINESE AMBASSADOR has arrived here to meet His Excellency the Viceroy. He was for some years in Paris and London. He proceeds shortly to Simla. We believe his mission is

connected with the opium question. We believe he was the writer of a recent letter to the *Times* on that question. He was entertained by His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor on Tuesday last. He seems to be intelligent and shrewd.

THE PIONEER has the following curious paragraph: "The extension of service awarded to Sir Ashley Eden, according to the recent telegram from London, hardly deserves that name. Properly his tenure of office would expire in June; that is, in a month at which it would not be convenient for any successor to take over office. So, to suit all parties, as well as his own inclination Sir Ashley Eden will be permitted to stay on till October." The *Pi* ought to have known that what it says is not a correct version of the matter. Sir Ashley did not apply for an extension of service, and no extension has been granted to him. The Viceroy has simply recognized his claim to the full term of his office by interpreting the law bearing upon it. Sir Ashley was away for six months from Bengal when he was President of the Army Commission, and the Viceroy has construed the law to mean that he is entitled to additional six months to complete the term of his office.

IT CANNOT but be highly gratifying to our countrymen to know that Lord Northbrook continues to take a lively interest in their welfare. One of the most important signs of the time is the growing desire among Indian youths to complete their education in England, and as a necessary condition they ought to be in their *statu pupillari* placed under proper guardianship. Lord Northbrook as a friend of the people of India, recognizing this necessity, started in 1879 the idea of establishing an Institute for this purpose. It was formally opened in 1880 under the name of "Northbrook Indian Society and Club." Its "main object is to provide a system of guardianship for young men of good family or position in India sent to England for education." It is also intended to promote social intercourse between Indian youths studying in England and Englishmen, who feel interested in their welfare. A year's experience has satisfied the Committee of the Institution that it supplies a widely felt *desideratum* and that it has the sympathy of both Indians and Englishmen. In order to place the institution on a permanent basis and to provide it with a suitable locality and funded income it is proposed to raise subscriptions, and the Committee have issued an appeal to the Indian public. We sincerely hope that the appeal will be generously responded to by Indian chiefs and gentlemen. Lord Northbrook has personally addressed many of them. We are authorized to mention that His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor is willing to head the subscription list. As requested we shall be glad to receive subscriptions in aid of the fund.

ANOTHER distinguished Behari has passed away! Maharaja Sir Joymungul Sing K. C. S. I. of Gidhour is dead. He belonged to an ancient family noted for many acts of charity and public usefulness. It was his ancestors who founded or enlarged the great shrine of Baidanath or Deoghur. He distinguished himself much by his loyal services during the Sepoy Mutiny. Personally he was a most estimable gentleman. He has left a worthy successor in his son Raja Sheopersad Sing.

THOUGH forgotten by those for whom he laboured so zealously and so earnestly and suffered in his health and purse through the ill-will of an unkind Government the late Mr. W. S. Atkinson has, it is gratifying to notice, found an appreciative and able biographer in Dr. Theodore Duka. At the last half centenary festival of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences the learned Doctor read a biographical paper on the services rendered to the people of Bengal by Mr. Atkinson, and in it he dwelt at length on the progress of education in this country. He gave also a brief account of La Martinere. As a man of science Mr. Atkinson devoted his special attention to the Lepidoptera of the country, and Dr. Duka does him full justice in that respect. The paper has appeared in the Transactions of the Academy and we hope some day to produce an abstract of it. It is a matter of reproach to our countrymen that while mediocrities have been honored with busts and pictures, the memory of so distinguished an officer and man of science should be left to be preserved by the savans of Hungary. We are, however, not the less grateful to Dr. Duka for his essay.

NOTWITHSTANDING the tacit support of the Bengal Government the Romanizing craze as regards petitions filed in Criminal Courts has received a quietus at the hands of the High Court. We glean this information from the *Behar Herald*, which writes as follows: "—A circular has been issued by the Calcutta High Court absolutely prohibiting the practice, where it may exist, of allowing petitions to be filed in the Roman character. This circular is intended perhaps to supersede the instructions issued some time ago by Government in reply to a reference made by Mr. Beveridge, Judge of Patna, on this point. It was then laid down that there was no objection to allowing parties, at their option and for their convenience, to file written statements and petitions in the Roman character. The High Court has ruled that this is illegal, being in contravention of the provisions of the Civil Procedure Code." So common sense has triumphed over craze!

WE HAVE received a mass of papers on the Damuda embankment question, for which we regret we cannot make room. Babu Jogendra Chunder Bose, who writes about Baragram &c. corrects our statement that the Collector of Burdwan is satisfied that the inhabitants of the villages are unable to pay the cost of the embankment. He adduces facts and reasons to shew that not only have they been reduced to the lowest straits by the devastations of the flood and cannot therefore afford to pay, but that they are not bound in law and equity to pay. We have received another letter giving a harrowing account of the ravages of two floods, which occurred on the 29th July and the 24th August last, washing away houses and crops, and spreading desolation all round in the villages of Jamkooly, Kabara &c. to the south of Baragram and Bolorampore. Within this tract about 5000 bigas of land have been submerged and cultivation destroyed. We have also received the old correspondence relating to the embankment of Jothserampore and Sreekissenpore. All these papers shew that the people of a large number of villages are subject to periodical inundations of the Damuda, and consequently suffer great loss and misery, and that something should certainly be done to afford them relief. The question is one of life and death to them, and we are of opinion that the Government ought not to treat it with indifference. It is true that the question of the Damuda embankment had been settled years ago after a thorough enquiry, but that is no reason that it should not be reopened when the consequences to the unprotected villages are so fearful. We would recommend that a mixed commission be appointed to enquire into and report on the whole question.

WE THANK Dr. Raja Shourendra Mohun Tagore Bahadur C. I. E. for a copy of his new publication, entitled "the Five Principal Musicians of the Hindus." The history of the work is this. The noble author was invited to take part in the proceedings of the Fifth International Congress of Orientalists, which will be held at Berlin this month. As he has not been able to attend the Congress, he has made an offering to the congress of an allegorical paper in Sanskrit (with an introduction in English) being "a brief exposition of the essential elements of Hindu Music as set forth by the five celestial musicians of India." This paper is preceded by an imaginary picture of the Congress. The conception of the poem is quite original, which ends with a chorus in praise of Germany "as the land, which was the first to acknowledge and prize the importance and wealth of Indian literature to the fullest extent." Professor Weber in a critique in the *National Zeiting* speaks highly of this paper.

THE TOWN HALL Riot case is over. Mr. Marsden in his judgment says: "According to the evidence given by some of the Babus, it was only the *parawallahs*, who acted aggressively, the Babus confining themselves merely to the defensive, but this I have no hesitation in saying was not the case, as is shown by the quantity of broken stools, benches, and lumps of marble which were found outside the Town Hall and were beyond all doubt thrown by the Babus at the *parawallahs*." We have not seen the evidence, but we submit that these facts are not at all inconsistent with the theory that the Babus acted in self-defence. If the Police could prove otherwise, they would have left no stone unturned to do so. While, however, the Magistrate holds that "some of the Babus are considerably to be blamed for the riot," this in no way justifies the Police in the course they adopted and the part they took in the disturbance. The duty of the *parawallahs*, when they saw the Babus coming to attack them and a riot imminent, was to have withdrawn, and the Police must learn that one of their first duties is to practise forbearance, instead of which, in the present case, they joined in an affray which might very possibly have terminated in a far more serious manner than it has." Three Policemen have been identified and sentenced to undergo three months' rigorous imprisonment. On the principle that something is better than nothing we welcome this judgment of Mr. Marsden. We hope the Commissioner of Police will departmentally notice the conduct of the Policemen, who could not be satisfactorily identified, but to whom suspicion attaches. The discipline in the Police ought to be maintained with a strong hand.

WE HEARD, last year, a good deal (perhaps some of our readers will think too much) of certain supposed marvellous ocurrences at Simla at Mr. A O Hume's house and elsewhere. It might have been supposed that the general incredulity with which these astonishing stories were received would have induced those concerned to keep their own counsel, and not compel the general public to classify them as confirmed lunatics. But less than six months after the storm of unbelief or disapprobation, which these original revelations called up, had subsided, one of the apostles of the new doctrine, Mr. A. P. Sinnett, published in England a work on the subject entitled "the Occult World." This not only recapitulated all the Simla marvels, but attempted a quasi-philosophical explanation of some of them and added a number of, undoubtedly somewhat remarkable, extracts from letters which Mr. Sinnett had received, and which purported, and he believed to be written by one Koot Hoomilal Singh, who again is believed by Mr. Sinnett to be an adept, or superhuman man, somewhat of the type of those adepts depicted by the late Lord Lytton in his novel of Zanoni. We are unable conscientiously to aver that this work, carefully written as it was, and exhibiting considerable literary skill, has in any degree appreciably modified public opinion as to the inherent incredibility of all those matters upon which Mr. Sinnett seems to pin his faith. One really would have thought that this would have been the end of the matter, but there are some people who can not "be easy;" who once getting an idea into their own heads, insist upon sharing it with their neighbours, and whose unselfishness and benevolent intentions we may freely admit even while disposed to classify them as bores. We hope that it will not be to this category that the public will remit the Simla Theosophists, but scarcely three months have elapsed since the publication of Mr. Sinnett's book, and here they are at it again, forming themselves as we learn into a "*Simla Eclectic Theosophical Society*," of which Mr. A. O. Hume is the President, Mr. Sinnett the Vice-President, and Mr. Ross Scott C. S. the Secretary, and we hear of their intention of promulgating a detailed account of their aims and objects, codes of bye-laws, and we know not what, and that under the very nose of Father Kerr. We feel very much inclined to say, "Ladies and gentlemen" (for we hear that the fair sex also is represented in the new Society) "this is by many degrees too bad, it is altogether and absolutely too-too" but then the question will arise—can these people *all* be lunatics?

They have nothing to gain but every thing to lose by their persistence. Is there not something like a method in their madness? Can they by any possibility have got hold of any real facts? Positively whichever way we look at the question it is too perplexing for our feeble intellect, and we must leave the solution of the mystery to "time, which tries all things."

WE ACKNOWLEDGED last week the receipt of Ghose's Indian Chiefs, Rajas, Zemindars, &c. Babu Lokenath Ghose, the author has it seems taken great pains in preparing this work. He has brought to book the leading families and characters of not only Bengal but also of all the provinces of India. The sketches are necessarily brief, but this is the first complete attempt of its kind. This book gives in a compendious form accounts of the rise and fall of many of the principal houses in this country, and thus throws a flood of light on the social history of the people. The author deserves great credit for the manner in which he has executed his self-imposed task.

WE ACKNOWLEDGE, with thanks the receipt of a copy of a Hand-book of Rules relating to pay, service examinations, and travelling allowances of officers in civil employ in the Lower Provinces compiled by Babu Ishan Chunder Bose M. A. Assistant Comptroller General. The book has been methodically arranged and contains a vast mass of useful information.

WE HAVE received a copy of the second petition to His Excellency the Viceroy of the Hindu Raieses, Choudhuries, Mahaldars, and other residents of Mooltan, protesting against the order of the Commissioner of Mooltan in the Prahlad Puri Mundir case. The grievances of the petitioners have been lucidly and forcibly set forth, and we make no doubt that the petition will receive due consideration of His Excellency the Viceroy.

WE INVITE the attention of the Punjab Government to a letter in another column disclosing a reign of terror in Ferozepore. The letter comes from a well-informed and trustworthy correspondent.

"A SHAREHOLDER" of the Bank of Bengal replies to our remarks on his letter in our last. He "believes" that "the request from Government to open the Bank during the holidays last year was made, after the Government order was issued maintaining the holidays at 12 days," but he gives no evidence in support of his "belief." "Bank Manager," however, comes to the rescue of "A Shareholder." But what does "Bank Manager" say? He says: "Shortly before the Pujas of 1880, it was *rumoured* that, despite the order cancelling the curtailment of the holidays, Government had called upon the Bank of Bengal to open its doors for certain days for the payment of Government claims." We have italicised the word *rumoured*. "A Shareholder" *believes*, and "Bank Manager" hears it *rumoured*, that the Government had asked the Bank to open its office during the Durga Puja holidays, but neither "belief" nor "rumour" is evidence of fact. "Bank Manager," however, adds that the Bank Directors had written to Government that they "contemplated opening the Bank, in future years, on the same days as the Custom House might be open. Government, it is *believed*, acquiesced in these arrangements, and the Bank of Bengal communicated them to all the Banks." How did the Government "acquiesce"? Did the Government pass any orders or forward any written answer to the Directors? The deponent sayeth not, and yet he concludes, "I hope I have thus made it clear that it has been mainly owing to Government action that the holidays are to be reduced, and that the Directors of the Bank of Bengal do not deserve the odium that the native press has sought to cast upon them in this matter." How logical! Although both "A Shareholder" and "Bank Manager" have proceeded on gross assumptions, on "belief" and "rumour," and yet both seek to throw the odium on Government. The fact of the matter as far as our information goes is that in the beginning of this year the Secretary to the Bank had submitted a calender of the Bank's holidays to the Comptroller General and the late Financial Secretary, who with their anti-holiday feeling did not apparently object to the proposal of the Bank Directors to keep their office open, but the question we are in a position to state was not laid either before the Financial Member or the Viceroy, and the Government did not therefore commit itself any way whatever. A further proof of the intention of Government in the matter is to be found in the circumstance that the Public Debt Office will remain closed during the Durga Puja holidays this year as in previous years. Surely if the Government had intended to curtail the holidays, it would not have allowed the Public Debt Office to be closed. So much for the attempt to cast the discredit of the movement on the Government.

But we are glad to notice that all merchants are not in favour of the move to deprive the Hindus of their national holiday. A "Merchant", thus writes to the *Englishman*:

SIR—I am glad to see that some agitation is being made against the dismemberment of the Doorga Poojah holidays, and, although you have advocated the present action of the Directors of the Bank of Bengal, I do not think from what I have heard that you have all the Banks and mercantile offices with you. These holidays are an incalculable boon to the hard-worked office man if they enable him to get one week's change and holiday, more particularly at this time of the year, after the dulness and discomfort of the rainy season.

In this age of telegraphs and steam, holidays are getting scarcer year by year and a stand should be made against further encroachment on our leisure, and, I may say, on our health.

To the natives the Doorga Pooja is the great national holiday which they look forward to from year to year. Many of them have long distances to travel to see their relations, and with the Doorga Pooja week cut up, as proposed many a good hard-working clerk would have to remain at his desk, however much his master might wish to give him a holiday. I would propose that the Directors of the Bank of Bengal should reconsider their decision of opening for business on the 4th, 5th and 6th October (Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday). Let the Banks keep open on the 28th and 29th, but let there be a clear holiday from September 30th to October 8th, which includes all the principal days of the Poojahs, and will enable every one to go away who wants to. There will be a direct gain in the health and cheerfulness of each staff.

We do hope that the generously disposed among the merchants will set their face against this illiberal and intolerant movement, and thus vindicate the good name of the Englishman for fair play and justice.

DR. DE JONGH'S LIGHT-BROWN COD LIVER OIL.—ITS UNEQUALLED EFFICACY IN CONSUMPTION AND WASTING DISEASES.—Dr. Henry Hanks, author of "consumption: its Treatment and Curability," writes:—"The superior efficacy of Dr de Jongh's Light-Brown Cod Liver Oil over the Pale Cod Liver Oil has proved, in my experience, unequivocal. Patients who have persisted for several months in the use of the latter, with scarcely any perceptible improvement, have, after a brief trial of Dr. de Jongh's Light-Brown Cod Liver Oil, acquired such fatness, and those distressing symptoms accompanying emaciation have so rapidly subsided, that I have been induced to confide in its reputed remedial powers, and consequently to advise its substitution for the Pale Cod Liver Oil." Benjamin Clarke, Esq., M. R. C. S. F. L. S., author of "Notes and Suggestions on Cod Liver Oil and its Uses," writes:—"The effect of the Pale Oil on the circulation is so feebly marked as not to be perceptible; so that in some cases of extreme debility, the patient, from the slowness of its action, is in danger of sinking from exhaustion, or the disease, as in consumption.. may become incurable from protraction. My inference agrees with the mark that Dr. de Jongh's Light-Brown Oil effects a cure in half the time that the Pale Oil does." Dr. de Jongh's Light-Brown Cod Liver Oil is sold only in capsuled imperial half-pints pints, and quarts, by all chemists, druggists and storekeepers. Sole Consignees Ansar, Harford and Co., 77, Strand, London.

LONDON CORRESPONDENCE.

London, August 5, 1881.

Several very important Indian topics came before the House of Commons this week. A Scotch member, Mr. Dalrymple, a Tory, asked the Secretary of State for India whether it was true that six Protestant missionaries had been or were about to be put upon their trial for open-air preaching in Calcutta; and whether he and Lord Ripon approved the action of the Government of Bengal in endeavouring to suppress this form of work by Protestant missionaries, which had hitherto been unmolested. Lord Hartington replied that he had no official information on the subject, but that he saw in the Indian papers that three Protestant missionaries had been prosecuted in Her Majesty's Court at Calcutta for disobeying the orders of the Commissioner of Police, which prohibited preaching in the enclosed squares except upon permission to be obtained from the Commissioner in writing. The Magistrates on July 3 decided that the Commissioner of Police acted *ultra vires* in making such an order. Other missionaries were similarly charged, but the cases against them were not prosecuted. Since the judgment of the Magistrates was delivered the Calcutta Missionary Conference had been in communication with the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal, who had replied, proposing an amicable discussion of the subject with a view, if possible, of reconciling all conflicting interests and securing the maintenance of peace and order in the enclosed squares of Calcutta. He (Lord Hartington) had received private information from the Viceroy that until he saw the reports of these proceedings in the Indian newspapers he knew nothing of them. The proceedings were not at the instigation of the Government of India, and the Viceroy had from the very beginning done all in his power to promote a friendly settlement of the matter. I do not think there is a man in England interested in Indian affairs who did not know that Lord Ripon had nothing to do with the Police order. It "pays," however, at present to lay the blame on a Catholic Viceroy, as I said last week one of the very meanest things that I ever knew, and I am not alone in my opinion among persons who know India, and who know still more of the free life of England. I have no wish to say a word to interfere with the right of public meeting, but the English nation ought to be dealt with "on the square" in matters like these.

While writing the above I received the *Patriot* of July 4 and find the letter of Mr. Bamford. I do not see that he mends the matter of transferring the "practical application" of his charge from the Viceroy to some Catholic priest not mentioned. No such insinuations ought to be made by any honorable man. If charges are made they ought to be plain, direct, and with the entire facts so marshalled that they will stand the test of cool examination by an impartial authority—by let us say, Sir Ashley Eden. But, you will see, that when you have done your best, a question put in the House of Commons, even when answered with the decision of Lord Hartington, can send a false impression all the land through. It is difficult to get Englishmen to see that there is a great difference between missionaries going into Africa with their lives in their hands, unsupported by power, and going into India where if they claim the right to any especial favour they do so on the ground that behind the claim are 200,000 bayonets and sabres, and the whole might of England. To my view English missionaries should be more careful—should have less sahibism and more of the gentle spirit of Christ—in India than in any other land, because there is no other land in which the snare of race-pride is so easily imbibed, and so dangerous. It may be useful to bear in mind that public preaching is not allowed in England in squares where it is calculated to be a nuisance. Here is a parallel case. Ever since I can remember, flower girls have sold their flowers in the streets at Islington. Within the last week or two this has been stopped and the girls summoned for a nuisance at the instance of the shop-keepers. The Home Secretary expressed a dislike to meddling with the poor girls, but said he was powerless if a nuisance was complained of. The same thing has occurred frequently with respect to street preaching in England. The Salvation Army, for instance, are hardly ever out of trouble and they are not allowed to plead, that if their preaching is stopped, they are prevented doing their duty. I think the rules which prevail in England where the mass of the people are at least nominally Christian, ought to prevail to a double degree in a country where every word uttered against a native faith is an offence to millions. A Protestant missionary would not be allowed to go into Ireland and create riot by attacking the faith of the people in a public Square. The Police in Ireland, and the Police in India are responsible for the public peace. Churches and chapels are no more molested in the one country than the other, or, if there is any difference, the molestation is least in India. I repeat, I have no wish to add a peppercorn towards preventing any missionary to do his duty, but I hope the Government will do men's duty irrespective of questions like that of Mr. Dalrymple, and I repeat also that to endeavour to raise in India one of those wretched anti-popery cries which have disgraced England from the days of Titus Oates and Lord George Gordon to the Papal Aggression Bill is unworthy of the names of gentleman and Christian.

You will see that Lord Hartington, in reply to Mr. O'Donnell, said the Government were aware (and it was included in a Blue-Book which had been laid before the House) of a proclamation of General Roberts, dated Oct. 13, 1879, promising a reward of fifty rupees for every Afghan soldier who had fought against the British troops since the 3rd of the previous month; a reward of seventy-five rupees for every Afghan captain or subaltern officer; and a reward of 120 rupees for every Afghan field officer. In consequence, however, of the change of affairs at Cabul within nine days of the proclamation, that proclamation was never acted upon. He had the personal authority of General Roberts that no payments had been made for these purposes. This is rather hard on General Roberts, but it serves him right; his indiscretions of speech during the Afghan War were at least as great as his merits as a soldier. If the lessons that his critics have essayed to teach him, should be the means of inducing greater self-restraint, they will do General Roberts a great service.

Our Afghan news has come at a very awkward time for the Government. Of course, in giving up our hold of Afghanistan, in the interest of the Ameer, we, in fact, retired from all interference in the domestic affairs of the country, reserving only the traditional right not to allow Afghanistan to be used against us by any enemy. English opinion (and even the *Standard* favours it) is very resolute in its determination to leave the struggle for the Ameership to take its course. Still the supporters of Lord Beaconsfield's policy are making the most of the fact that the Ameer in whose favour we retired, is beaten. For my own part I care very little what extreme Partizans say on either side. Party has its use in constitutional countries, but Party requires watching at its best, and at its lowest it would sacrifice to itself the highest interests of humanity.

There is another subject on which I am sure you will not object to me for saying that I cannot see it from young

India's point of view—I mean the affair at Seebpore. * A paper headed "India's Duty to England," and signed "James B. Knight" in the *Journal of the National Indian Association*, seems to put the dispute in a calm and dispassionate way, and certainly the spirit seems that of a man who would do service to India if he could. The Indian Association and its excellent Secretary Miss Manning are beyond praise of mine. If this is a correct statement of the case I certainly think the young men were in the wrong.

The origin of the so-called mutiny is thus described by Mr. Croft, the Director of Public Instruction in Bengal, and the facts, as he states them, are, we believe, undisputed :—

"It appears that, on the 22nd April, Srish Chunder Lahiri, a student of the second year engineering class, who was working in the carpenters' shop, left his bench without orders, and going to the fitters' shop where he had no right to be, proceeded to punch a hole in a piece of iron at one of the machine tools. The iron was too thick for the machine, the 'bolster,' or bottom die of which was consequently broken, and some urgent work stopped for several days. When the matter was reported to Mr. Fouracres he sent for the student, and asked him what he meant by being 'such an idiot' or 'such a fool' as to meddle with a machine that he knew nothing about. At this time Mr. Fouracres was under the impression that the student was working in the fitters' shop. On learning that he belonged to the carpenters' shop, Mr. Fouracres followed him thither, took him by the arm or shoulder and brought him back to the fitters' shop, a few paces distant, when, pointing to the broken machine, he warned him emphatically in the presence of the other students, never to touch it again without orders, and not to leave his proper work. At the same time Mr. Fouracres struck the bench with his stick." We unhesitatingly say that if such an incident had happened in an English school, or college, or workshop, the unanimous verdict of his companions on the culprit would have been "*served him right.*" The Bengali pupils of the Seebpore workshop chose to regard Mr. Fouracres' action as an insult to them, individually and collectively, and framed a memorial, signed by eighty-seven of their number, praying for the Superintendent's removal. This Mr. Croft justly regards as a serious offence against discipline, and adds "To show themselves so sensitive on immaterial points and so careless as to the main object of their education, to clamour for the treatment of gentlemen when they are behaving like unruly schoolboys, is only to show their folly and ingratitude." Mr. Croft's decision in the case was that if, after due time for reflection the students failed to withdraw their names from the memorial and make a sufficient apology, they should be no longer retained in the college. The majority (sixty-five in number we believe) refused to withdraw and were expelled.

The Editor appends this note :—

"It appears that the students, having made full apology, are to be readmitted after six months' rustication."

Well, if this is correct I can only say that an English lad in an Engineers' school would have run a great risk of very much greater punishment than that inflicted on the young Hindoo. To command it is necessary to learn first to obey. The proud motto of the Prince of Wales is—"I serve." Discipline is the foundation of all success. I have sometimes wondered how it is that Quakers, to all appearance very ordinary men, are capable at times of such great efforts in public or private affairs, and I never could ascribe it to anything but the discipline of their earlier days. A Quaker lad is at times not unlike the Spartan lad who concealed the fox till it ate out his bowels. A young Hindoo is naturally polite ; yet I once saw a great number of young Hindoos receive book-prizes at a College, and very few of them, indeed, made a Salaam, or said, "thank you." Now this would not be allowed in an English School. If I were in the position of one of those young men at Seebpore I would obey implicitly all just orders, convinced that I was taking the very best plan for learning how to command, when the right time came. The sons, of the Prince of Wales are at the present time "roughing it" in all parts of the world. People say that every thing will be made smooth for them, but that is nonsense, no power of man can make things smooth at Sea. Of course there may be some facts in the Seebpore affair, which would put a different complexion upon the story, but still this Engineering College seems to me such a grand thing for the future of India, that I would not strain at small things in the process of Education.

You will see how very finely Lord Hartington has come out as Secretary for India, and also with respect to the Land Bill. His coolness is equal to that of Lord Beconsfield, and it has the advantage that it is constitutional, not put on. Some nights ago he was interrupted in a reply to a question on Afghan affairs, by a person asking, if we were to be left at the mercy—the rest was lost in cries of, "order." Lord Hartington demolished his querist by coolly demanding the completion of the question. With respect to the Land Bill, the public spirit of Lord Hartington could hardly be excelled. The Heir to a dukedom and one of the biggest rent-rolls in England, he has nevertheless supported the Land Bill with loyalty from first to last ; when Mr. Gladstone retires from the Premiership, the Liberal Party will not think twice as to who will be his successor. Meanwhile India has for its Chief Secretary a man who will not take hasty steps, but who will not easily be prevented from taking the steps which he deems just and right. These facts are well illustrated and the last point with which I shall trouble you this week. The Parliamentary report says :—

"The Marquis of Hartington, replying to Mr. O'Donnell, said it was the case that during the year 1878-9 more than three millions sterling were paid from the revenues of India to persons not resident in that country as annuities and furlough pay. A large portion of that sum consisted of pensions. It should, however, be remembered that in the case of the covenanted servants a large portion of these pensions had been furnished by themselves in the shape of a deduction of four per cent. from their pay, which they had contributed during the whole period of their service. (Hear, hear.) The whole question of these charges had been referred to a Committee of Council for investigation and report; but it was found that it was not possible materially to reduce this "annual drain" on the resources of India. The only way in which such charges could be reduced was by the employment in important positions of the natives of India. Several suggestions on that subject had been made from time to time by the Home Government to the Government of India, and no opportunity would be lost of pressing it upon the attention of the latter Government."

I am sure I need not say a word in approval of this.

You will find the English papers full of Mr. Bradlaugh He has made a great mistake. That he should have been allowed to take his seat is, I think, as clear as daylight, but that he should be allowed to invoke the name of God without believing that there is a God, would, in my view, be blasphemy simply. He ought to have been allowed to affirm, but the House of Commons, representing all the Kingdom thinking differently Mr. Bradlaugh had no right to force on the House the disgraceful proceeding of last Wednesday. If the character of the House had not been in question, there would have been a simple farce. As the character of the House of Commons was in question they were a very unhealthy caricature of proceedings which in old days would have carried with them extreme danger to any person who had acted after the manner of Mr. Bradlaugh. If, however, you would see the true cause of at least part of the opposition to Mr. Bradlaugh's Election you must look to the hereditary Pension List, which he is pledged to attack. I wish the attack which is sure to come, had fallen into other hands. I hate the name of his population theories. They seem to me simply disgusting. But he will strip the above iniquity bare to the bone.

*We refer our correspondent to our articles on the subject, which appeared in our issue of 27th June.—Ed. H. P.,

COMMERCIAL.

(FROM OUR COMMERCIAL CORRESPONDENT.)

Saturday, 3rd September, 1881.

It is rather singular for our commercial markets to remain almost inactive at this time of the year, when 3½ weeks only remain for the Holidays to commence ; there have been transactions both in imports and exports but confined within very narrow limits.

Cotton Goods.—Grey Shirtings, Madapollams, Mulls, and Jaconets have found buyers to a limited extent, but prices have shown a downward tendency in consequence of fresh arrivals adding to previous stocks, which were already large—transactions in Grey Dhooties have been considerable, but chiefly from 2nd hands.

White-goods.—In the absence of demand from up-country marts it only changed hands for local wants.

Yarns of all sorts continue to remain quiet, prices have been easier.

Exports have not shown any improvement, on the contrary the demand has been slack and transaction confined within narrow limits.

Tea.—10700 chests were up put at the public sale held on the 1st September of which 8500 found buyers, the rest withdrawn, there was hardly any competition, and the biddings were slack, prices in consequence dropped half to one anna per lb.

Oil seed.—In this market nothing of importance has transpired, prices have been somewhat easier.

Wheat.—The demand being slack, prices declined one anna all round.

Jute.—Continued active but prices falling as supplies are becoming larger.

MONETARY.

Nothing of interest has occurred during the week, rates of interest and discount continued to be the same as in the previous week.

GOVT. SECURITIES

Have towards the close of the week been steady without serious fluctuation, prices at the close were as follows :

4%	...	100·4	
4½ per cent...		109·4	109·8

JOINT-STOCK SHARES.

There was hardly anything done in this market to distinguish it from the rest ; inactivity prevailed throughout the period.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS.

MOFUSSIL SUBSCRIPTIONS.

	Rs.	As	
Sirdarpore Native Library...	13	4	0
B. C. Chatterjee Esq., Berhampore	6	10	0
Moharajcoomar of Dinagepore	20	0	0
Chairman District Road Cess Committee, Dinagepore	3	0	0
L. N. Kakoti Esq., Jorhat	3	0	0
Babu Lalaram Panrai, Purnea	13	4	0
" Gourbullub Sahoy, Aligarh	15	0	0
" Gopeekissen Bannerjee, Rungpore ...	3	5	0
" Dwarkanath Roy Chowdry, Tangail ...	6	10	0
" Beharylal Bannerjee, Kosba	10	0	0
" Anundchunder Mohanti, Sangli	7	0	0
" Bepin Behary Ghose, Monghyr	6	4	0

Government Notifications

Calcutta Gazette,—*August* 31, 1881.

GENERAL.—Babu Shamacharn Chatterjee, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Julpigoree, is allowed leave for one month, under Section 71. Chapter V of the Civil Leave Code, with effect from the 10th September next.

Babu Jugguibundhoo Bhuttacharjee, Officiating Personal Assistant to the Commissioner of the Presidency Division is confirmed in that appointment.

Babu Benode Behay Sircar, Sub Deputy Collector, Beerbhoom, is allowed leave for one month, under Section 71, Chapter V of the Civil Leave Code, with effect from the 15th proximo, or such subsequent date as he may avail himself of it.

Babu Annodaprosad Bose, Officiating Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Backergunge, is vested with the powers of a Collector under Act X of 1870 in that district.

Babu Annodaprosad Bose, Officiating Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Backergunge, is transferred temporary to the Patuakhally division of that district.

Babu Prankumar Das, temporary Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Mymensingh, is transferred to Gya, and is posted to the Sudder station of that district.

The services of Babu Ramchurn Lal, Officiating Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Chumparun, are placed temporarily at the disposal of the Board of Revenue, for employment on Batwara work in the district of Mozufferpore *vice* Babu Santpershad.

Mr. W. M. Clay, Magistrate and Collector, Pubna, is appointed to act, until further orders, in the First Grade of Magistrates and Collectors, with effect from the 12th instant, *vice* Mr. J. Ware Edgar C.S.I.

Mr. H. G. Coocke, Officiating Magistrate and Collector, Dinagepore, is appointed to act, until further orders, in the Second Grade of Magistrates and Collectors, with effect from the 12th instant, *vice* Mr. W. M. Clay.

Babu Bhoyrubnath Palit, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Rungpore, is allowed leave for five weeks, under Section 127. Chapter X of the Civil Leave Code, in extension of the leave granted to him under orders of the 22nd ultimo.

Babu Nilmoney Cooar, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Lohardugga, is transferred to the district of Mymensingh, and is posted to the Sudder station of that district.

Babu Judunath Sircar, Sub-Deputy Collector, Gopalgunge garun, is allowed leave for two months, under Section 71, Chapter V of the Civil Leave Code.

Advertisements.

JUST PUBLISHED.

Thirty-nine articles on the Report of the Rent-law Commission.

Reprinted from the Hindoo Patriot.

Price per copy one rupee, inclusive of postage 1 Re. 2 As.

APPLY TO PRINTER.

NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS.

Contractors are invited to tender on or before the 26th September next for the whole or for any part of the following works. Forms of tender (containing the terms and conditions of contracts) may be purchased at the District Engineer's Office, Dacca, price 8 annas a copy. Tenders on other forms will not be accepted. Each tender should be sealed and superscribed. "Tender for Works," and should be addressed to the District Engineer, Dacca, accompanied by the earnest money. The acceptance of the tender rests with the Chairman of the Road Cess Committee. It is not obligatory that the lowest or any tender be accepted Plans, Sections and Estimates can be seen and other particulars obtained on application at the District Engineer's Office, Dacca. t

Original Works.

	Estimated Rupees.
1. Extension of Meerpore Road No. 10 from the west bank of the Meerpore River to Dewanbaree Tek. 20,50,227 cub. feet Earthwork ..... 3,26,174 sq. feet Dressing and forming. 2,29,700 „ Turfing	12,291
2. Ditto from Dewanbaree Tek towards Bulliarpoor. 50,07,642 cub. feet Earthwork ..... 5,56,668 sq. feet Dressing and forming. 4,24,128 „ Turfing	31,874
3. Completing the unfinished Road from Singhara to Sreenaggar. 3,52,016 cub. feet Earthwork including dressing and ramming ..... 18,202 „ Do. in Benching Slopes... 4,88,209 sq. feet Turfing	2,927
4. Constructing 10 Rustic Wooden Bridges on Singpara to Sreenaggar Road.....	4,337

Annual Repair Works.

Road No.		Estimated Rs.
1.	Dacca to Naraingunge..... ...	7,965
2.	Naraingunge to Byde Bazaar	932
3.	Dacca to Take	3,519
5.	Moonsheegunge to Singpara including Joinshar Branch.....	2,756
6.	Seals to Manickgunge.....	608
7.	Maughbazaar Road.....	120
8.	Dacca Keraneegunge Ferry to Nishanbaree.....	1,182
9.	Bazrajooginee Road.....	521
10.	Dacca to Meerpore	910
11.	Danga to Narsingdee	656
12.	Nowabgunge to Moniat	893
15.	Dewra Road.....	150

E. C. HAWKES, C. E.,
District Engineer, Dacca.

Dacca, 30th August 1881.

JUST PUBLISHED.

A Hand-book of rules relating to Pay, Service Examinations and Travelling Allowances of officers in Civil employ in the Lower Provinces.

Compiled by.

I. C. BOSE. M. A.
Assistant Comptroller General.

Price Rs. 3 per copy, packing and postage charges annas 8 ; extra copies may be had of the compiler, Treasury Buildings, Calcutta, or of Messrs. Thacker Spink and Company Government Place, North, Calcutta.

WANTED.

An accountant for Bengal Banking Corporation Ld. Salary Rs. 60. Apply with copies of testimonials to the Secretary, 7 Old Post Office Street on or before 20th September instant. None need apply who does not possess a good knowledge of Book-keeping.

IMPORTANT NOTICE.

GREAT RUSSAPUGLAH NURSERY CLEARANCE SALE.

The undersigned desiring to dispose of all old grafts has made an extraordinary reduction of 15 per cent on the current prices of fruit grafts only which will continue up to 31st December next. The above reduction will be allowed on all purchases above Rupees Ten. All Amateur Gardeners should not lose this rare opportunity.

Russapuglah *via* Tallygunge } NOOROODEEN KHAN, *Proprietor G. R. Nursery.*

CORPORATION OF CALCUTTA.

A Superintendent is required for the Calcutta Water Works, on a salary of Rs. 350, rising to Rs. 400 per mensem. Applicants must be trained Mechanical Engineers fully competent to superintend the erection, working, and economical management of large Pumping Engines. They must also be able to level, survey, and superintend the pipe distribution throughout the town and be competent to perform routine office duties. Applications will be received up to the 15th September next.

R. B. BUCKLEY,
Offg. Engr. to the Corporation.

NOTICE.

For Sale the undermentioned Estates the properties of the Land Mortgage Bank of India (Credit Foncier Indien) "Limited." For further particulars apply to the undersigned 1/1 Hare Street Calcutta.

Towzie No.	District.	Pergunnah.	Mouzahs.	Government Revenue.	Remarks.
				Rs. A. P.	
410	24-Pergunnahs.	Azimabad.	Dehi Akrabarriah.	4,371 1 10	
112	Ditto	Mooragacha.	Falenda.	1,611 13 11	
90&91	Ditto	Magoorah.	Kolsa.	953 11 9	
6-1	Ditto	Ditto	Palpara Jafferpore.	310 7 0	

G. M. REILLY, *Manager.*

BY APPOINTMENT,

To His Highness the Maharajah Dheeraj OF BURDWAN.

C. K. SEN & CO.

KOBIRAJ DRUGGISTS AND CHEMISTS, CALCUTTA.

AYUR VEDA MEDICAL HALL

No. 146, LOWER CHITPORE ROAD.

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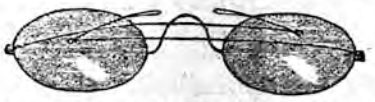

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